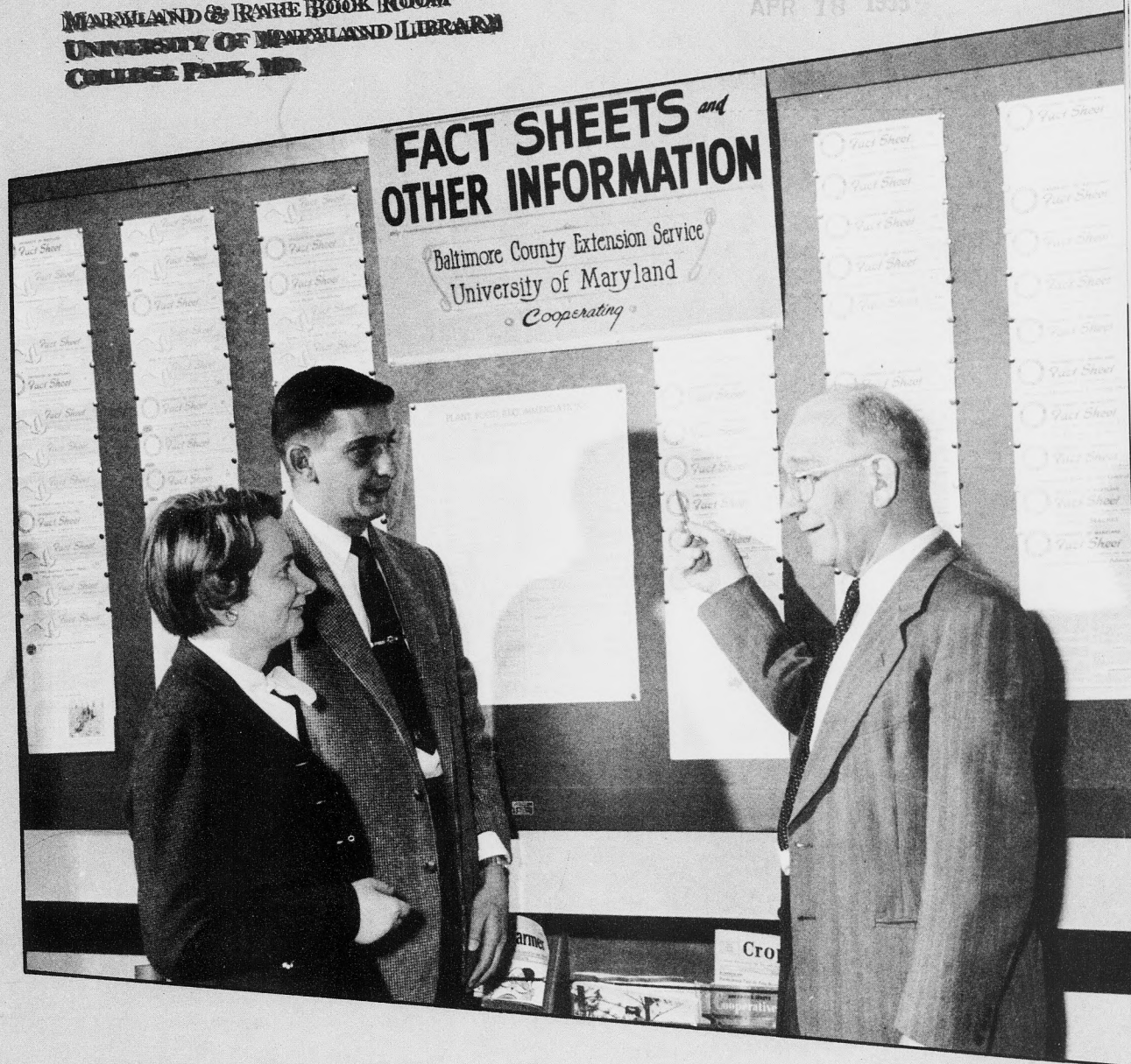


1954 Extension Work

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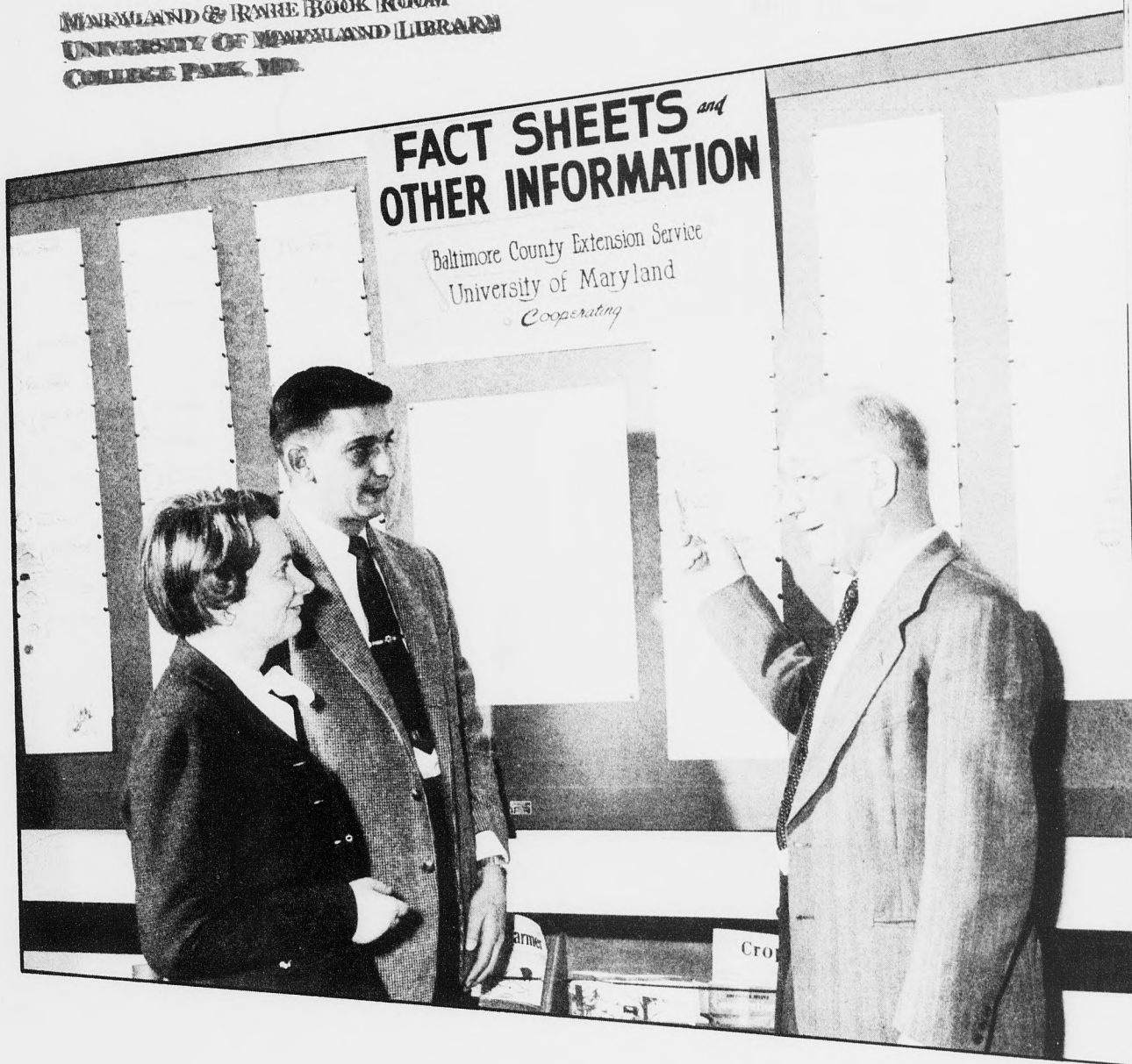
Fortieth Annual Report

University of Maryland Extension Service

Archives 15

1954 Extension Work

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Fortieth Annual Report

University of Maryland Extension Service

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MARYLAND

EXTENSION SERVICE
COLLEGE PARK, MD.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COOPERATING

Dear Friends:

Throughout the year, as I see the various Extension activities, projects and programs being carried on by our county workers cooperating with the local people, I am constantly astounded at the number and variety of items which find a place in Extension's educational program.

I think that you, too, will be amazed when you see a list of typical activities for a single county.

With that in mind, this year's report starts off by presenting a more or less typical list of activities from a county program. The one discussed happens to be for Baltimore County, but it could be repeated, with variation, for most of the counties of the State. The crops may vary from county to county, interests of homemakers may vary somewhat, but the list of cooperating organizations and activities would be about the same in any county.

It emphasizes that Extension has done a lot of "growing up." Like all of our 1955 life and civilization, it has become increasingly complex year by year.

Last spring, upon the retirement of Ralph McHenry, county agent in Allegany County from 1919, Mr. McHenry described in the EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS, our little magazine, the work of John McGill, the first County Agent in that county.

"Mr. McGill's work was simple advice and demonstration," Mr. McHenry wrote. "He would leave Cumberland on horseback Monday morning and return Saturday evening. He took his meals with the farmers and spent the nights wherever evening overtook him.

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The most important problem of early Extension workers was to interest farm people in scientific agriculture and home economics.

Modern Extension workers who have to struggle to keep ahead of the constantly expanding demands upon their time and their service, know that modern farmers and homemakers are eager to learn.

So far, Extension has been able to keep up with its increasing task by working longer hours, adding a few more workers and gaining the assistance of county people as local leaders.

Whether Extension can continue to meet this increasing demand or must sometime put a limit on growth and additional services, are questions which must be answered by the people.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Gwin
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Director

Expansion

County Extension workers are now called upon to perform a greater variety of services to the people of their counties than was true in the beginning of Extension or even just before World War II. The activities of agents in Baltimore county for 1955 are an example of activities of all county Extension agents.

H. B. Derrick has seen Extension work and the demands upon the Extension Service grow enormously since he first became county agent in Baltimore county in 1929.

In addition to Mr. Derrick, the agricultural staff in the county for 1954 included Frank R. McFarland who was associate agent until July 1; W. Max Buckel, assistant agent throughout the year; and James B. Arnold who was assistant agent until he left for the Armed Forces in December.

The home economics staff is made up of Miss Margaret N. White, home demonstration agent, and Miss Imogene D. Romino, assistant home demonstration agent. One other assistant home demonstration agent position is vacant. When all three positions are filled, Miss White and Miss Romino work with the adult program and the assistant agent with the 4-H program.

At the present time, Miss Romino is working with the 4-H program. Miss Anna Trentham, home demonstration agent since 1931, retired in March 1954.

To enable work to run smoothly as possible, the agents have made the following divisions of responsibility within their staff for the work in agriculture:

Youth Work

4-H Club Work.....Buckel and Arnold
Training Judging Teams.....Buckel
4-H Older Youth Groups.....Buckel
Farm Bureau Youth Groups.....Buckel
Special Programs for Young Men and Women.....Buckel
Young Men's Agricultural Club.....Derrick and Buckel

This group of young farmers, whose membership is approximately 65, informally organized about 15 years ago with Mr. Derrick's assistance to solve their problems and to help each other over the rough spots as beginning farmers. They hold about four meetings each winter. A special question is selected as the topic of study and discussion for each meeting. The Extension workers attend and usually arrange for the program presented at each meeting. Fertilizing pastures might be the subject at one meeting; improving sheep breeding at another. There is no recreation at these meetings—everything is the business of learning and solving the problems of farmers.

Agricultural Production and Marketing

General Farm Planning.....Derrick and Buckel

This activity covers cropping systems, livestock management, labor saving and educational work in soil conservation. Of the 2,743 farms at present in Baltimore county, there is a large annual turn-over of operators. Farm planning and learning is especially important with large turnover.



County Agent Derrick estimates he performs 5 to 10 percent of his job of giving information to farmers in casual meetings on the street, at farmers' meetings, field days and elsewhere. On his way to lunch this day, Mr. Derrick was stopped by a lady who wanted advice concerning her sheep; the Agricultural Conservation Stabilization office manager to discuss handling the county ASC election; a lady looking for information on pruning apple trees; a man who needed help building a farm pond and this young dairy farmer with a feeding problem. It took Mr. Derrick an hour to get to the restaurant a block away.

Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.....Derrick
Dairy Breed Associations.....All Agents
Artificial Breeding.....Derrick
Milk Marketing.....Derrick
Breed Field Days and Heifer Parties.....All Agents
General Dairy Program.....All Agents
Beef, Swine and Sheep.....All Agents
Breed Associations.....Derrick
Egg Production.....All Agents
Broilers.....Buckel
Turkeys.....Derrick
Vegetable Crops.....Derrick
4-H Work in Vegetables.....Buckel and Arnold
Corn, Wheat and Barley.....Derrick and Buckel
Alfalfa and Pastures.....Derrick and Buckel
Tree Fruits and Small Fruits.....Derrick and Buckel
Nurseries and Green Houses.....Derrick and Buckel
Home Vegetable Gardening, Home Flowers,
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Each year a delegation of Baltimore county vegetable growers spend a day at the vegetable Field Station Day at Salisbury.



Extension entomologists weigh hay samples to test effectiveness of new insect control methods to protect hay crop.

Control of Boxelder Bugs.....All Agents
Forestry Problems All Agents

Conservation of Resources

Soil Conservation Education.....Derrick
Maryland Land Week.....Derrick
Cooperation with State Dept. Forestry and Parks.....All Agents
Cooperation with Inland Game and Fish Commission.....All Agents
Farm Safety All Agents
Fire Prevention All Agents

Cooperation with County Agencies

County Commissioners Derrick
County School Board.....All Agents
County Health Board.....All Agents
County Recreation Program.....All Agents
County Soil Conservation District.....Derrick
Mr. Derrick serves as an advisory member and Secretary to Board of Supervisors.

Cooperation with Federal Agencies

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.....Derrick
Mr. Derrick is an advisory member of the county board of ASC and chairman of their county election board.

The Sparks Junior Farm Fair, held annually for many years is a big gathering for 4-H Club youngsters, exhibits and parents.



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Social Security Information and Education.....Derrick
Farmer Selective Service Problems.....Derrick and Buckel
County Resources Committee.....Derrick
Veteran On-the-Farm Training.....Derrick

Cooperation with Farmers Groups and Organizations

Farm Bureau Derrick
Grange Derrick
Farmers Clubs (Three in county).....Derrick
Maryland State Fair.....All Agents
Eastern National Livestock Show.....All Agents
Sparks Junior Farm Fair.....Buckel and Arnold
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McDonogh School Fair.....Buckel and Arnold
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Dairy farmers listen to Extension Agricultural Engineer at a meeting held in milking parlor at Cloverland Dairy Farm.



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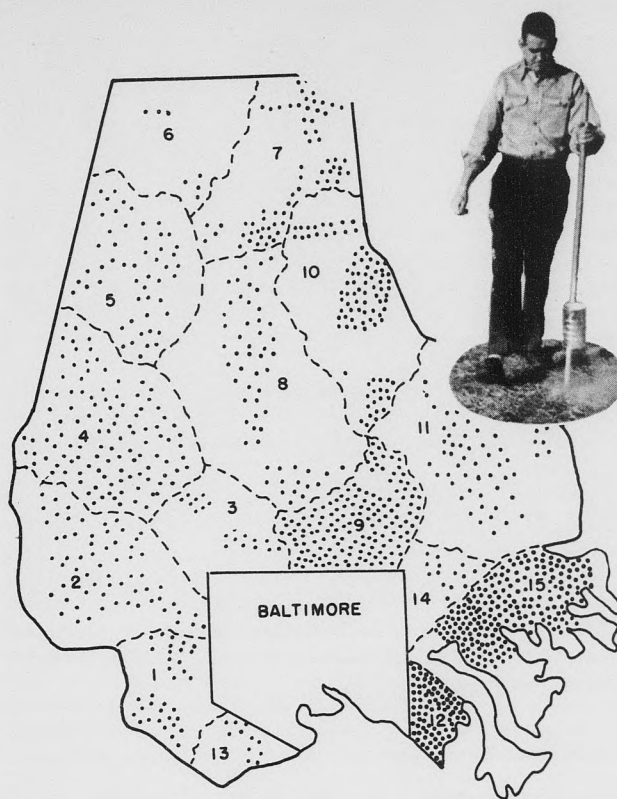
Mass Media Information Work

Cooperation with Baltimore city daily newspapers, four weekly newspapers, radio and television stations All Agents

Miscellaneous Activities

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Information on farm machinery repair and adjustment Buckel
Farm Building plans and remodeling All Agents
Airplane and other custom dusters and sprayers Derrick and Buckel
Barn Hay Drying Derrick
Farm Labor Derrick and Buckel

Right: University entomologists have demonstrated that spreading disease among Japanese beetles is an effective control measure. Spores of "milky white disease" were applied on 1,153 properties in Baltimore county in 1954. In the past several years, 13,500 pounds of spore dust have been spread over the county. The dust is manufactured by the Entomology department at College Park. The program is run cooperatively by the County Government and the University. The map shows where applications were made and the method of placing on ground.



Home Economics Services

The Baltimore county Home Demonstration staff in 1954 worked with 51 homemakers' and 23 4-H clubs, two older youth groups, and several other organizations and agencies promoting recent research developments and their practical application in the home.

To perform their job, the agents held 31 adult training meetings, attended by 983. They held or participated in

204 other adult meetings, attended by 10,693. Local leaders held 697 meetings with 12,196 attendance.

In 4-H work, they held four training meetings, attended by 141. They also attended or participated in 110 other 4-H and older youth meetings, attended by 5,017. Local leaders held 200 meetings with 3,535 in attendance. The following breakdown is an example of the various ac-

Leaders, trained by Home Demonstration Agents, extend and multiply program. This is Mrs. John Goodwin, Baltimore County.

One of the most popular meetings was on herb culture and cookery. Mrs. C. Lamar is with Home Demonstration Agent White.





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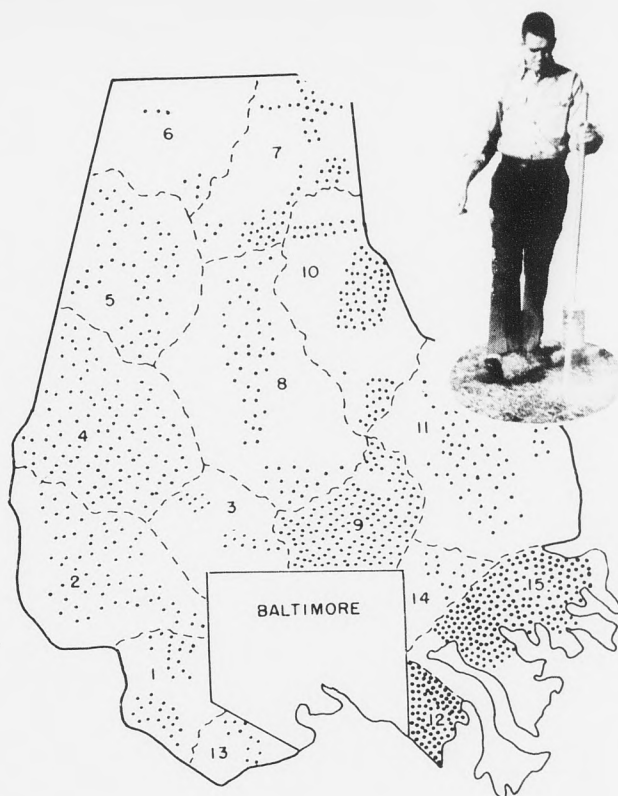
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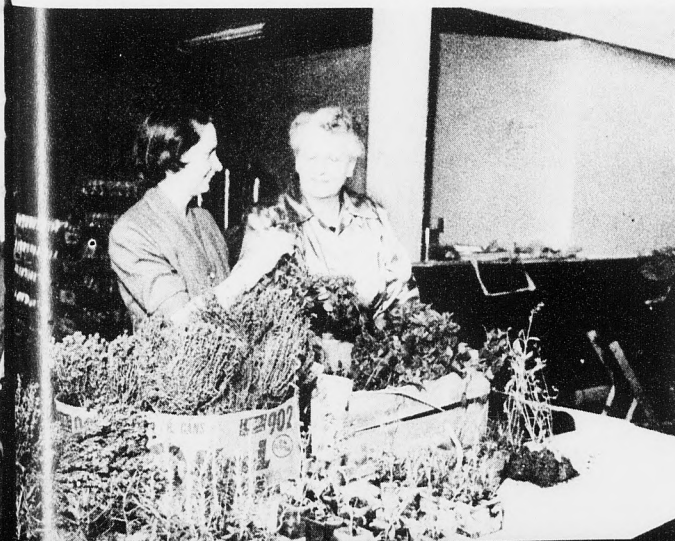
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Organization

Home Demonstration Work: Cooperated with County, State and National Home Demonstration Councils; trained leaders in 5 home economics projects and 7 related areas; organized 9 new clubs; helped plan and participated in Rural Women's Short Course; met with special interest groups and gave guidance in program planning; homemakers and 4-H.

4-H and Older Youth: Organized new clubs; held leader training, council, record training, and achievement meetings; help plan and participate in Club Week; planned and held Rural Life Sunday; camps; tours.

Clothing

Home Demonstration and 4-H: Selection and care of new fabrics; selection of patterned fabrics; beginners' clothing construction; tailoring; pattern selection; style revue; sewing machine clinics; ironing and pressing methods for different fabrics; good sewing equipment; choosing accessories; good grooming.

Family Life

Home Demonstration, 4-H, Older Youth: Woman's role in the changing world; the art of staying young; adolescent development; manners at home and school; baby sitting; discussion on prejudice.

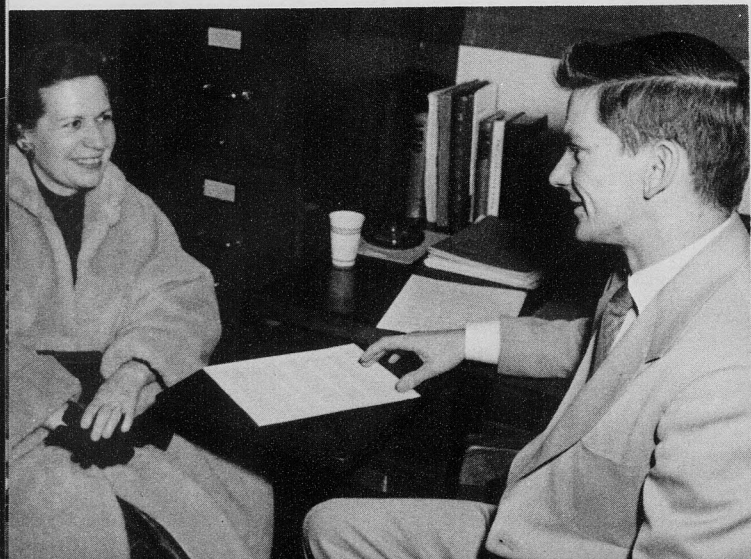
Foods and Nutrition

Home Demonstration and 4-H: Consumer information on eggs; egg cookery; weight control; barbecuing chickens; herb cookery; milk drinks; uses of cheese; quick breads; baked desserts.

Home Furnishings

Home Demonstration and 4-H: Color in table settings; newer fibers in home furnishings; framing of pictures; remodeling of lamps; rug making; chair caning; slip covers; making table linens.

The County Extension office had 1,956 office calls and 5,251 telephone calls in 1954. This is James Arnold, assistant.



Home Management

Home Demonstration, 4-H, Older Youth: Time and motion studies of household tasks; improved ironing methods and equipment; remodeling kitchens; selection and care of small electrical appliances; bed making; storage in the bedroom.

Home Grounds and Gardens

Home Demonstration: Blooms throughout the year; Christmas greens; flower arrangement; water conservation.

Cooperation with Organizations

Home Demonstration Work: Maryland State Fair, Towson Town Association, United Nations of Maryland, Towson Concert Association, women's clubs, Red Cross, Committee on Handicapped Children, Child Welfare, church groups, YMCA, garden clubs, Gunpowder Youth Camps, Inc., Grange, Farm Bureau, Associated Women of Farm Bureau, Franklin School Fair.

4-H Clubs and Older Youth: Associated Women of Farm Bureau, Towson PCA, Protective Game and Fish Association, Gunpowder Youth Camps, Inc., Towson Town Association, UN of Maryland, Maryland State Fair, Sparks School Fair, Franklin School Fair, Maryland State Police.

Related Areas in Home Demonstration Work:

Worked through Council committees on health and safety; civil defense; international relations; music; book reviews; arts and crafts; recreation; community welfare.

Cooperation with Other Agencies and Local Business Firms

Home Demonstration: Department of Forests and Parks; City Water Supply; Soil Conservation Service; University of Maryland Institute for Child Study; school officials; farmers' cooperatives; window displays in local stores for National Home Demonstration Week; tours to local commercial firms; national Institute of Dry Cleaning; Gas & Electric Co.

4-H: University Extension Courses; County School Board.

Older Youth: County Health Department; Department of Forests and Parks; Children's Rehabilitation Institute.

Home Demonstration Agent Margaret White, left, and Imogene Romino use this dress model to show better clothing practices.



County Agent Work

Increased demands from both farm and non-farm people have increased the work load of Maryland's county agents. So that they could do a better educational job for all the people, county agents in 1954, emphasized several activities besides the usual jobs of economic production and marketing of food and fiber, community development and public affairs. These added activities were designed to get a better Extension program to more people.

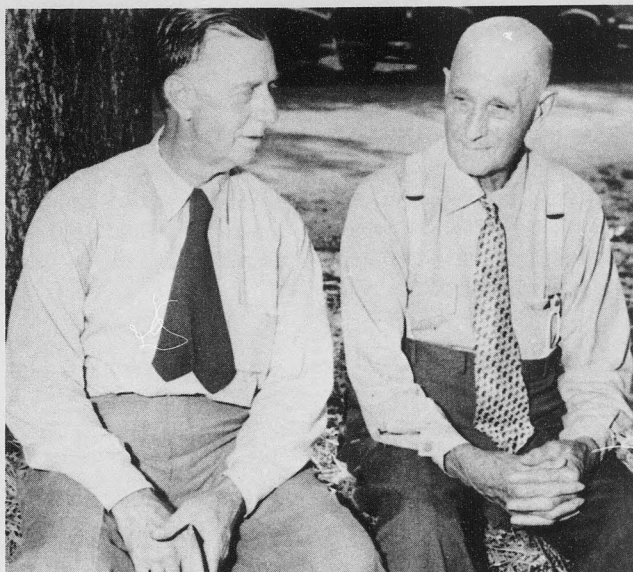
Efforts were made throughout the state to get the help of the people in planning Extension work in their counties.

In Queen Annes county this took the form of an overall Extension advisory group representing the various areas and interest in the county. Committee members held local meetings throughout the county to find out what the people wanted from Extension. The results of these meetings played a large part in planning the Agricultural Extension program for 1955.

Much the same procedure was used in planning the poultry program for Cecil county. An informal five-man committee representing the poultry interests in the county met with the Extension staff to talk over the poultry situation in the county. The committee members held community meetings and used the results in helping the county agent plan a poultry program for 1955.

In these counties and in others where similar groups have been used, both the agents and the people have been enthusiastic about the results. The people have had help designed to fit their needs and the agents have been able to do a better job.

Demonstration on the farm has always been the most important Extension teaching tool to show better farming practices. Henry Shoemaker, long-time County Agent in Frederick county, is showing a group of farmers how to check moisture content of hay before chopping or baling for placing on a mow hay drier. Hay must show damp but not so damp the hands become wet.



Cooperation with local organizations is important in Extension work. Here R. F. McHenry who retired this year as Allegany county agent, confers with Albert O'Neal, member of the Cumberland Fair Board. Mr. O'Neal received the Certificate of Merit at the University of Maryland commencement for his outstanding leadership. (Picture courtesy Cumberland News.)

Extension workers often help to organize and lead worthwhile activities to get them off to a good start. But once they are started they should be run by the people. A good example of the way this can work is the Maryland Feeder Calf Sale.

Organized in 1953, the sale was almost entirely run by members of the Extension Service. The Extension folks felt that this was a worthwhile activity as a demonstration, but that it was not justified as an Extension activity on a continuing basis. As a result, the management was assumed in 1954 by the livestock people it serves and Extension workers have limited themselves to the educational activities in connection with the sale.

By helping local people to assume leadership in activities such as this, agents are freeing themselves for increased educational activity.

Two surveys were made in 1954 that helped agents in sizing up the job they were doing and getting a look at the job ahead. In Cecil county a crew of Extension agents visited a representative sample of the farms in the county, digging up information they couldn't have gotten any other way. The result will be a program to fit the needs of all the people of the county and a better use of available leadership.

Another survey in Carroll, Harford, and Frederick counties gave the agents a lot of information on why farmers attend or don't attend meetings and on what they expect when they come. The result: meetings that will better fit the needs of the farmers.



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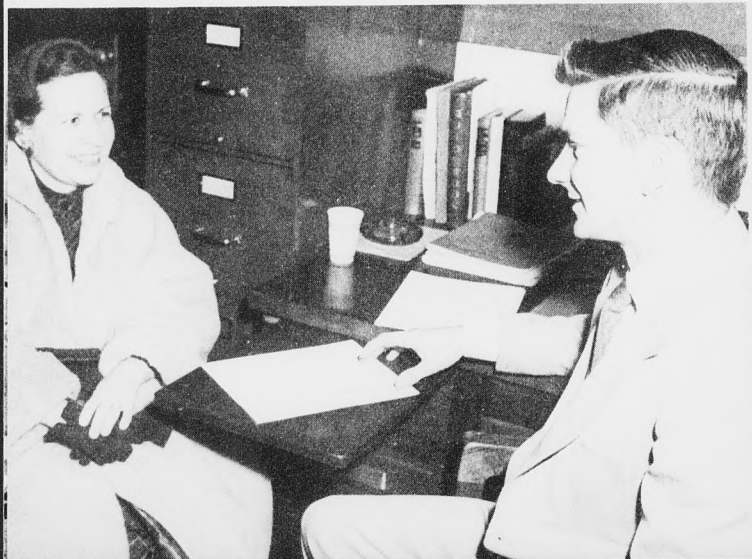
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4-H Clubs and Older Youth: Associated Women of Farm Bureau, Towson PCA, Protective Game and Fish Association, Gunpowder Youth Camps, Inc., Towson Town Association, UN of Maryland, Maryland State Fair, Sparks School Fair, Franklin School Fair, Maryland State Police.

Related Areas in Home Demonstration Work:

Worked through Council committees on health and safety; civil defense; international relations; music; book reviews; arts and crafts; recreation; community welfare.

Cooperation with Other Agencies and Local Business Firms

Home Demonstration: Department of Forests and Parks; City Water Supply; Soil Conservation Service; University of Maryland Institute for Child Study; school officials; farmers' cooperatives; window displays in local stores for National Home Demonstration Week; tours to local commercial firms; national Institute of Dry Cleaning; Gas & Electric Co.

4-H: University Extension Courses; County School Board.

Older Youth: County Health Department; Department of Forests and Parks; Children's Rehabilitation Institute.

Home Demonstration Agent Margaret White, left, and Imogene Romino use this dress model to show better clothing practices.



County Agent Work

Increased demands from both farm and non-farm people have increased the work load of Maryland's county agents. So that they could do a better educational job for all the people, county agents in 1954, emphasized several activities besides the usual jobs of economic production and marketing of food and fiber, community development and public affairs. These added activities were designed to get a better Extension program to more people.

Efforts were made throughout the state to get the help of the people in planning Extension work in their counties.

In Queen Annes county this took the form of an overall Extension advisory group representing the various areas and interest in the county. Committee members held local meetings throughout the county to find out what the people wanted from Extension. The results of these meetings played a large part in planning the Agricultural Extension program for 1955.

Much the same procedure was used in planning the poultry program for Cecil county. An informal five-man committee representing the poultry interests in the county met with the Extension staff to talk over the poultry situation in the county. The committee members held community meetings and used the results in helping the county agent plan a poultry program for 1955.

In these counties and in others where similar groups have been used, both the agents and the people have been enthusiastic about the results. The people have had help designed to fit their needs and the agents have been able to do a better job.

Demonstration on the farm has always been the most important Extension teaching tool to show better farming practices. Henry Shoemaker, long-time County Agent in Frederick county, is showing a group of farmers how to check moisture content of hay before chopping or baling for placing on a mow hay drier. Hay must show damp but not so damp the hands become wet.



Cooperation with local organizations is important in Extension work. Here R. F. McHenry who retired this year as Allegany county agent, confers with Albert O'Neal, member of the Cumberland Fair Board. Mr. O'Neal received the Certificate of Merit at the University of Maryland commencement for his outstanding leadership. (Picture courtesy Cumberland News.)

Extension workers often help to organize and lead worthwhile activities to get them off to a good start. But once they are started they should be run by the people. A good example of the way this can work is the Maryland Feeder Calf Sale.

Organized in 1953, the sale was almost entirely run by members of the Extension Service. The Extension folks felt that this was a worthwhile activity as a demonstration, but that it was not justified as an Extension activity on a continuing basis. As a result, the management was assumed in 1954 by the livestock people it serves and Extension workers have limited themselves to the educational activities in connection with the sale.

By helping local people to assume leadership in activities such as this, agents are freeing themselves for increased educational activity.

Two surveys were made in 1954 that helped agents in sizing up the job they were doing and getting a look at the job ahead. In Cecil county a crew of Extension agents visited a representative sample of the farms in the county, digging up information they couldn't have gotten any other way. The result will be a program to fit the needs of all the people of the county and a better use of available leadership.

Another survey in Carroll, Harford, and Frederick counties gave the agents a lot of information on why farmers attend or don't attend meetings and on what they expect when they come. The result: meetings that will better fit the needs of the farmers.



Agricultural Economics and Marketing

Tobacco and wheat growers were provided with economic and marketing information, such as market demand, supplies, exports and the movement of these products through marketing channels, as a basis for voting on price supports and supply controls.

Poultry and egg price reporting, broiler financing and packaging poultry in retail stores were subjects for meetings with poultry growers, and demonstrations contributed a great deal to better understanding and increased returns to members of the trade who took advantage of them.

Economic problems associated with the bulk handling of market milk on farms were discussed with milk producers and handlers at local meetings and at the annual conference of the Milk Industry Foundation.

Extension activity with cooperatives included a two day conference of managers and directors. Representatives of 39 cooperatives were present and participated in discussions of business, patron and public relations policies which contribute to successful operations of cooperative marketing and/or purchasing associations.

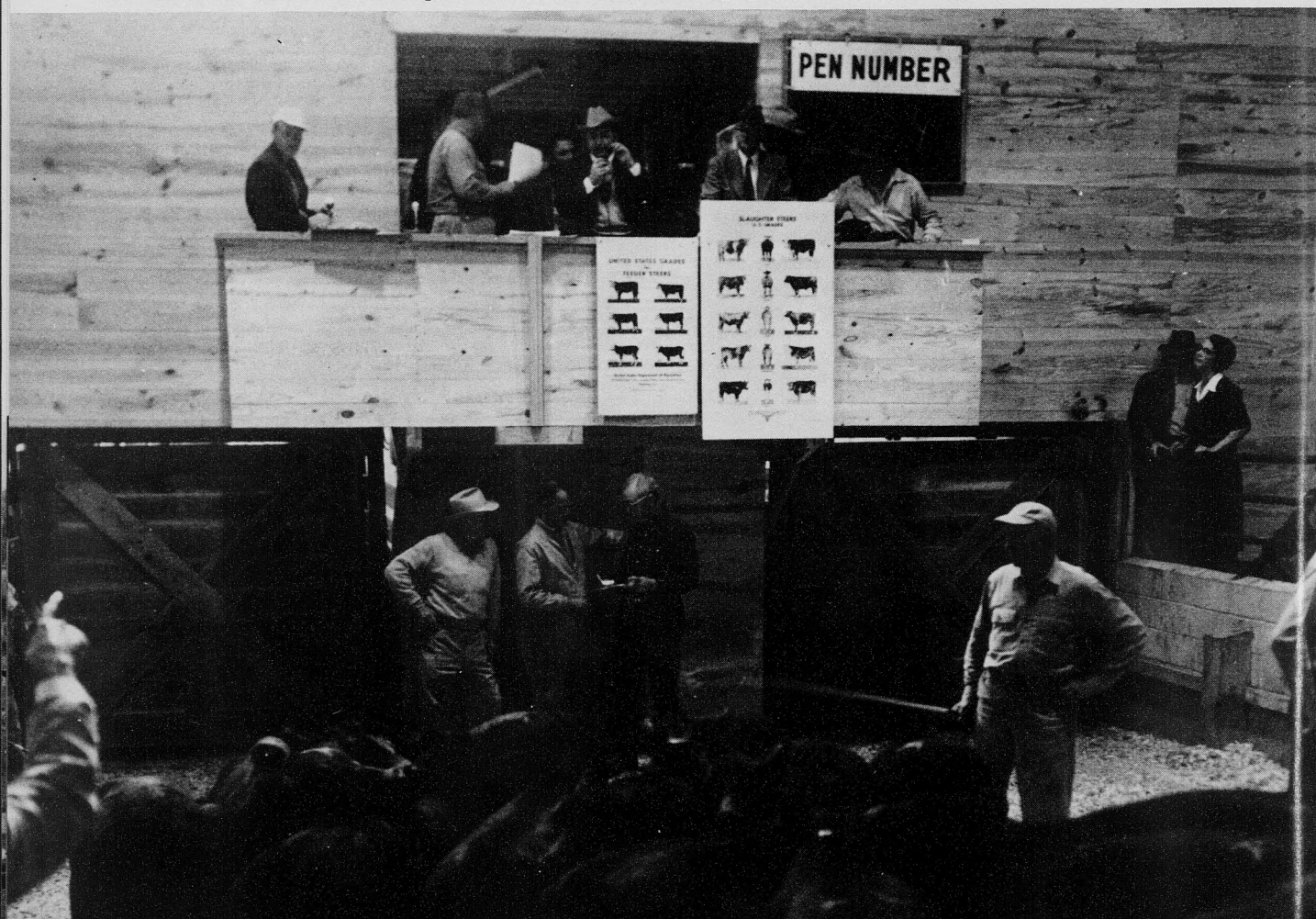
Price policy discussions were held with local farm groups and with a considerable number of civic and fraternal organizations such as Kiwanis, Lions, parent teachers and Rotary clubs. A series of leaflets entitled "Let's Talk It Over" were distributed through the county offices and also an extension bulletin entitled "Price Supports and Supply Controls in the Marketing of Maryland Tobacco," were published.

The Extension marketing program has been designed to assist the many activities and processes that make up the intricate system called "marketing."

Projects to assist the fruit and vegetable, the livestock and grain producers, retailers and consumers, have been carried on with the help of Research and Marketing Act funds. These are supplemented by extension projects in farm management and general agricultural marketing.

A marketing self-help program was developed to help the Garrett County Vegetable Growers Cooperative, Inc., sell its 1954 cauliflower production. Working closely with the county agricultural agent, a program to insure uniform

The state-wide feeder calf sale provides a successful marketing plan. This is the big new West Friendship sales barn.



packing and grading was adopted. Competent help was employed to develop new markets for the crop. Approximately 10,000 crates were sold during the season. Farmers were pleased with the \$1.60 per crate average after all marketing charges were deducted.

About 25 percent of sweet corn production is moving rapidly to market under special handling to keep it fresh under another phase of the fruit and vegetable project. Various methods are being used to cool the corn, including refrigerated holding on the farm, ice packing on the farm, before rushing to the retailer's cooler, and packing in wet strength bags with crushed ice. Corn marketed in this manner brought about 8-10 cents per dozen premium over top market price.

Maryland wool producers were given an opportunity to learn more about the quality of wool through the wool pick-up points that were established at Centreville, Cockeysville, Hagerstown and Oakland. The wool was graded by an official grader upon delivery. This program materially assisted in improving the prices received by the farmers for their 1954 crop of wool.

Market price, supply and demand information relating to grain is disseminated to help producers decide how

best to dispose of their grain crops. Grain grading demonstrations were held for grain dealers on the Eastern Shore. Dealers adopted standard procedures for sampling and grading grain.

The consumer education program is designed to aid consumers to improve buying techniques. The program shows consumers not only to be dollar wise but also how, when and why to buy food. Consumer information is disseminated by "Best Buy" posters for display in retail stores, regular newspaper and radio releases, and a weekly retail market price report. Active assistance is given to such programs as National Vegetable Week, National Apple Week and Egg Month. All Maryland fruits and vegetables in good supply were given a sales boost during the year.

Programs to supply factual market information to farmers through regular release of market news reports of fresh fruits and vegetables, livestock, dairy and poultry products, tobacco, and grain, are a regular function of the Department of Markets.

Other regular functions are educational programs relating to grading and inspection of fruit and vegetables, dairy and poultry products and a program to keep farmers advised of laws and regulations relating to agriculture.

Agricultural Engineering

Agricultural Engineering Extension serves farmers in rural electrification, farm buildings, drainage, irrigation, machinery, farm safety, fire prevention, home utilities, 4-H Club work, labor saving methods and machines. In this age of high costs farmers are constantly looking for methods and equipment that will increase profits.

Increased gainful use of electricity, for instance, is important both to the efficient operation of the farm and family well-being. Buildings that pay for themselves and are convenient, are an important asset. Machinery and labor-saving equipment that get the job done at the right time help assure profits.

Maryland's big dairy industry needs quality hay to make money. Research and farmer experiences show that mow hay driers are part of the answer. Since proper management and good design are important for best results, Extension efforts have stressed these factors. Extension assistance has been multiplied many times by farm representatives of power companies who have attended Extension Service schools.

Hundreds of Maryland dairymen have changed over to the loose housing-milking parlor system of dairy management, either by remodeling or new construction. Bulk holding tanks for the cooling and storage of milk have gained wide acceptance. Pole type framing for farm buildings is rapidly superseding conventional construction. Trench silos,

and means for self-feeding from them are subjects of state-wide interest because of lower investment costs and higher labor efficiency.

Farmers have asked the department for help in planning automatic feeding of cattle and poultry, ventilation of buildings, better wiring, grain handling and drying, automatic feed handling for milking parlors, water supplies and heat lamp poultry brooding.

Hurricane Hazel which destroyed 700 tobacco barns and 2,000 poultry houses dramatized the need for better farm structures. Within a few days after the storm, inspection teams of agricultural engineers were in the field. Their purpose—to determine structural weaknesses responsible for the losses and on the basis of this information, prepare building plans, radio talks, illustrated lectures and publications designed to give Maryland farmers the information which will enable them, practically and economically to avoid such losses in the future.

Drainage is an important problem in Maryland. It is solved in two ways: by large drainage ditches constructed under state law by joint action and individual farm systems. Extension assists with both. Extension assistance is given in public meetings and investigation preliminary to forming a public drainage association. For individual farm systems, Extension engineers do the survey and design work.

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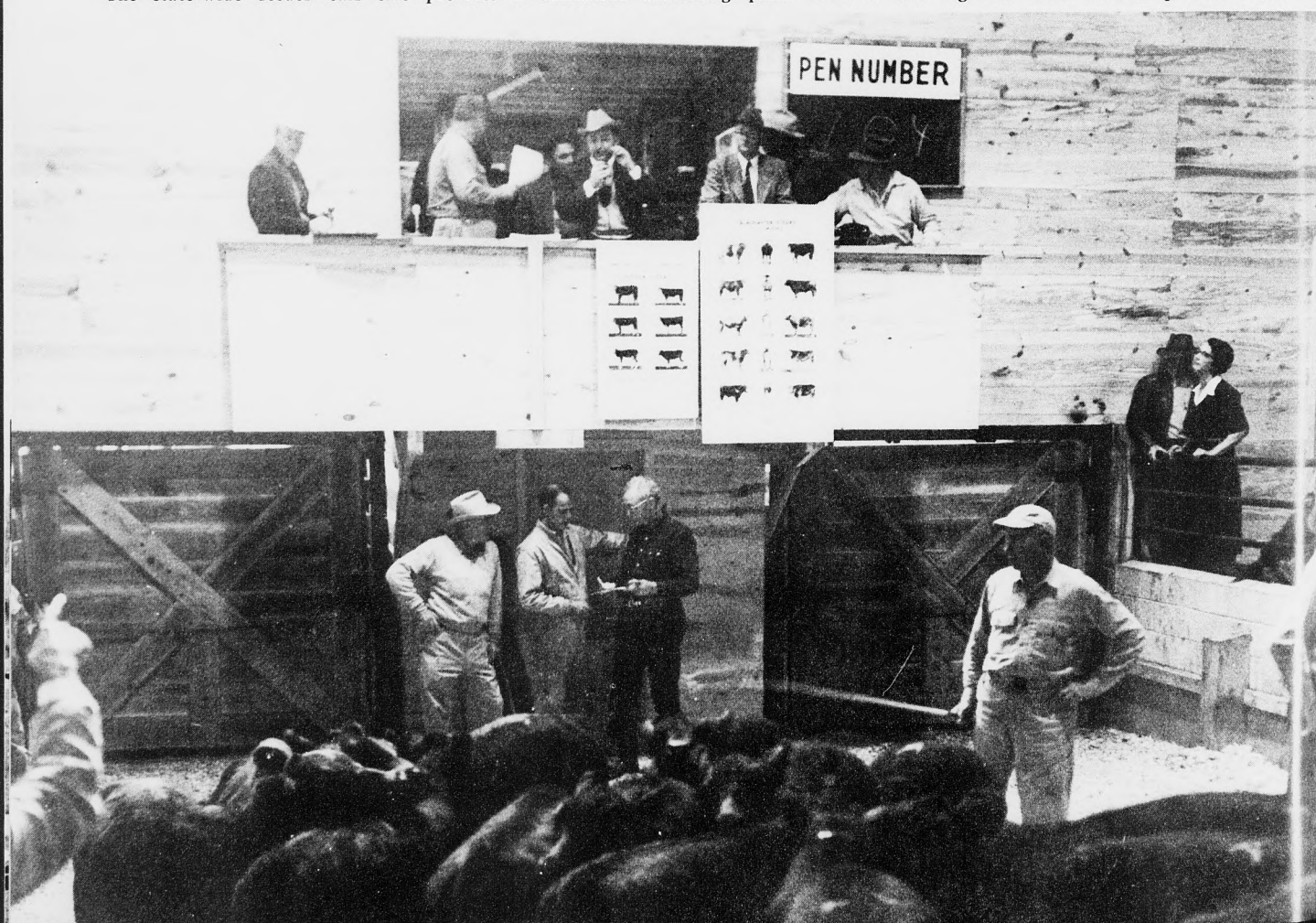
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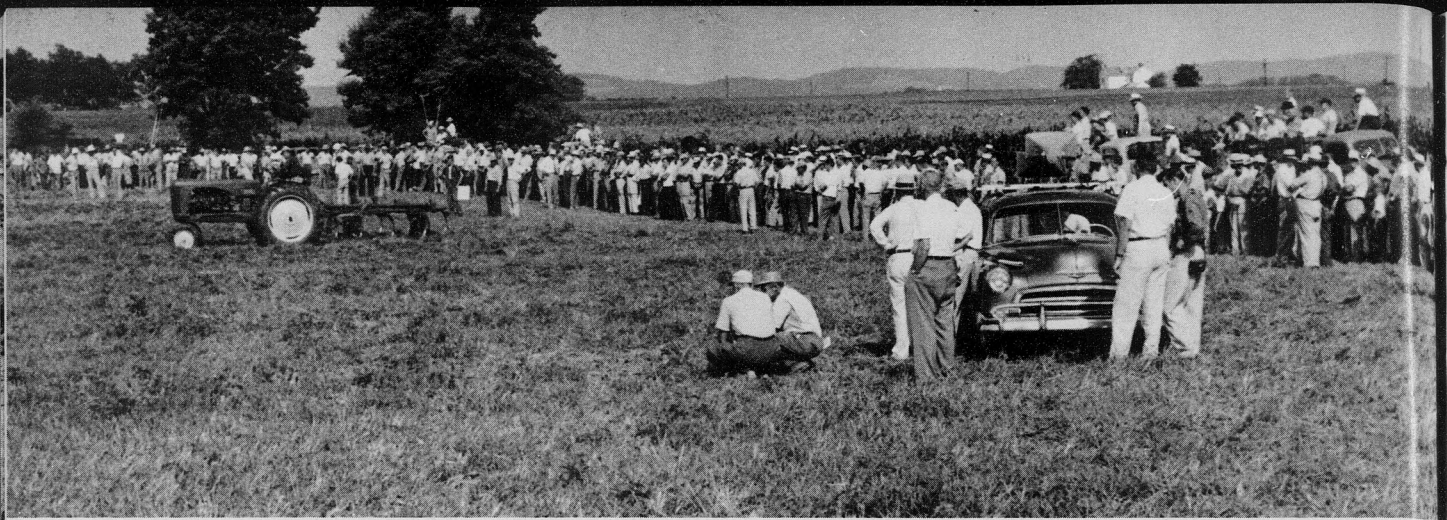
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This grassland machinery field day on a Frederick county farm attracted 2,500 farmers from Maryland and four other states.

There are now 189 active public drainage associations on the Eastern Shore with 18 more organizing. Included in these organizations are 4,700 landowners, 1,100 miles of drainage channels, draining 520,000 acres.

There is great interest in irrigation in Maryland and it has been proved, that in many cases, it has considerable value. Extension assisted 480 farmers with irrigation problems this year. They have advised on equipment layouts and checked designs submitted to farmers by commercial interests. In general it has been found that much information and education is needed before farmers can get the information and help they need in deciding on water supply, equipment, proper application and management.

Because of the importance and cost of mechanization, on-the-farm guidance meetings, emphasizing the need for farmers and dealers to carefully consider types and sizes of machines to buy, have been very well received.

Field adjustment demonstrations have been very successful. One county agent wrote in his narrative report:

"Guy W. Gienger, extension agricultural engineer, and the county agent spent one day holding two excellent plow hitching demonstrations. In fact, the agent saw the finest example in teaching and practicing by the farmers themselves at the Pocomoke demonstration. Sixty farmers were in attendance and fixed their own plows so that they were pulled properly

by the tractors. In one case an improperly adjusted plow had been registering an 1800 pound pull. After the proper adjustments were made the pull was reduced to 1100 pounds. This meant quite a bit of fuel saving to the farmer as well as a better job of plowing. Thirteen tractors and plows were re-adjusted during the day by the farmers and they learned to do it themselves. Fifty farmers attended the afternoon demonstration, making a total of 110 attending the two demonstrations."

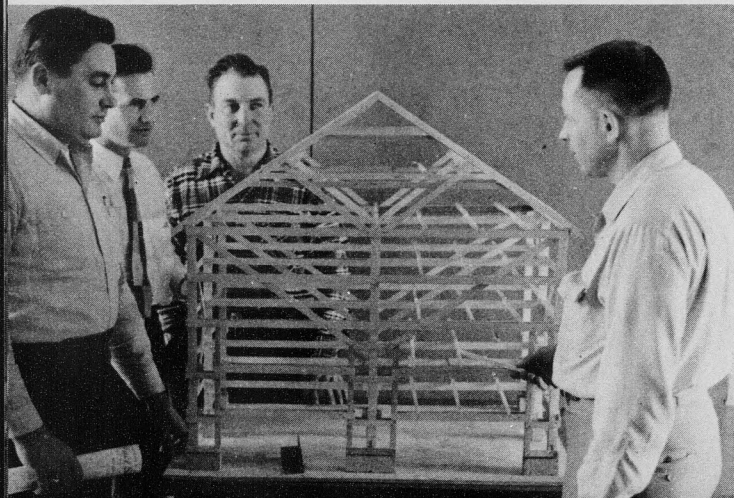
Agricultural engineering 4-H club work is on the increase. This year boys and girls completed 1,322 units of work in tractor maintenance, electricity and farm shop. Many of these 4-H'ers follow through by helping neighbors obtain more work at lower cost from their tractors.

Safety is emphasized in all tractor work and becomes a part of the boys' way of doing things. Much more care and caution is exercised by these boys when they work with other farm machinery or drive tractors, trucks or cars on the highway.

Need for farm shops prompted Extension to prepare a series of 4-H Club mechanics sheets on shop projects. These have encouraged boys to keep tools in good condition and improve facilities.

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Engineer Guy Gienger shows why so many hands are lost in corn pickers every year. Visual aids are an important teaching tool.



Animal Husbandry

Problems which arise in planning a program to meet the needs of Maryland livestock producers are great because of extreme differences in conditions. In the Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, and Lower Eastern Shore counties, many farmers have not kept pace with newer developments in livestock production. Many of these operations are small, complicating the problem of necessary changes.

In contrast with this, in Central Maryland, there are many farms which include intensive livestock enterprises using the most recent and advanced practices. Many of these progressive minded people are not farm-raised folks, and possess little knowledge pertaining to the fundamentals of livestock production but are hungry for livestock know-how.

The big challenge for effective Livestock Extension is to demonstrate the need for more careful thought and analysis by the progressive minded farmers and also to convince the more backward producers of the need for adapting newer approved practices.

Maryland farmers should become more conscious of the need for a balanced livestock program. Some farmers become interested in one species of livestock and then try to carry out a successful program with this one kind of livestock. This is contrary to sound Animal Husbandry practices. Successful livestock production comes from diversity of the operation. Beef cattle, sheep, and swine production go well together in most cases, making it possible for investment risk to be lessened, labor to be spread out over the year, and for income to become more stabilized.

As an example of this, one farmer in Montgomery county came to us for counsel concerning his sheep enterprise. He had a small flock on a rather large acreage and felt that he could increase the size of the flock many times over the present number in order to raise his income.

Sheep management demonstrations held on farms are an important part of Extension program in Animal Husbandry in Maryland.



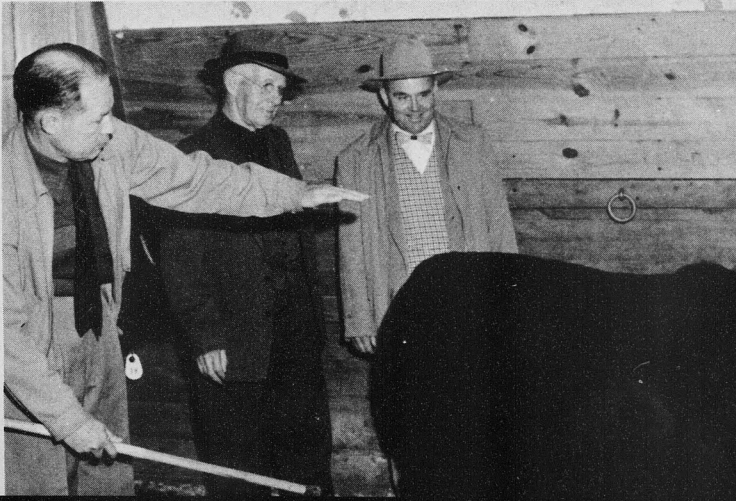
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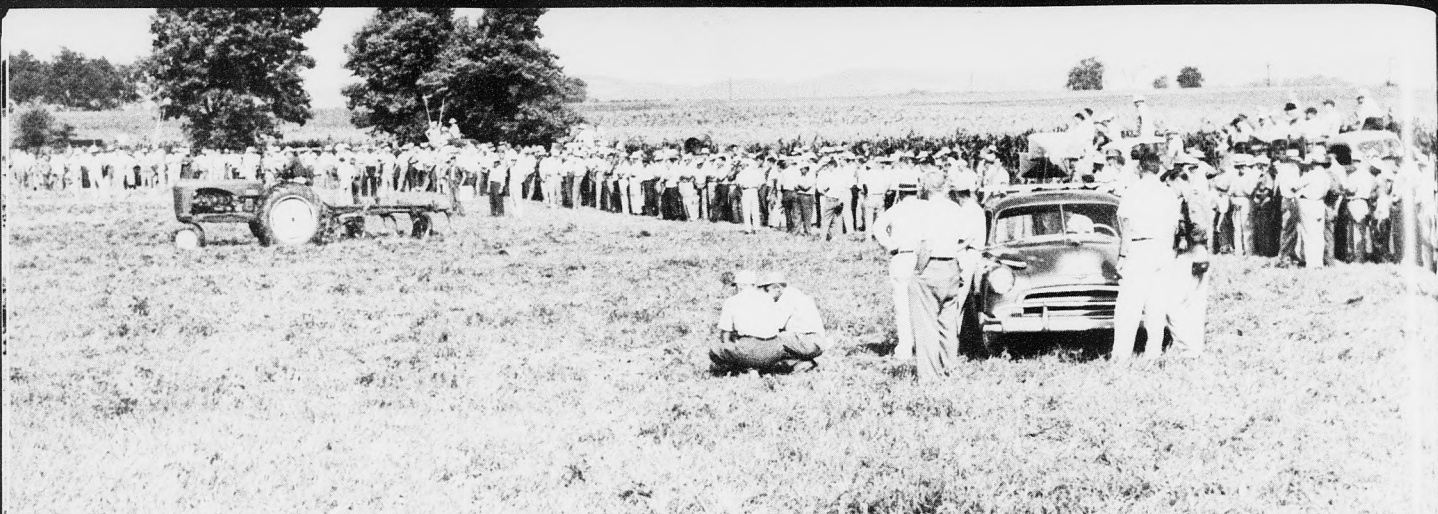
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There is tremendous opportunity for expanded production in the state. We are close to points of consumption and marketing. Corn yields can be as good as anywhere in the country. A temperate climate makes possible a pasture program which provides grazing during most months of the year. With a lower marketing cost and superior quality of product made available close to the point of consumption, Maryland has definite economic advantages.

Through demonstrational meetings, field days and an annual Stockman's Short Course, up-to-date methods of production have been brought to the farmer. In 1954 a series of regional swine production and marketing meetings were held in various areas of the state. During the meetings four phases of swine production were discussed including management, feeding, health and diseases, and marketing. This type of meeting was well received and will be continued.

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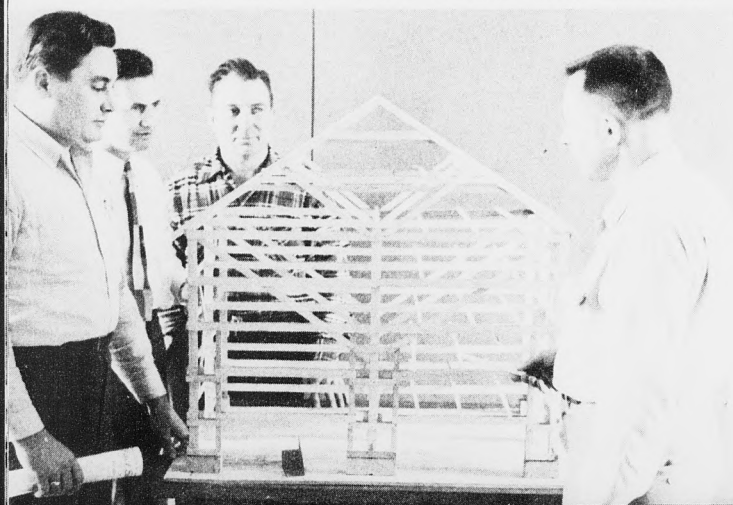
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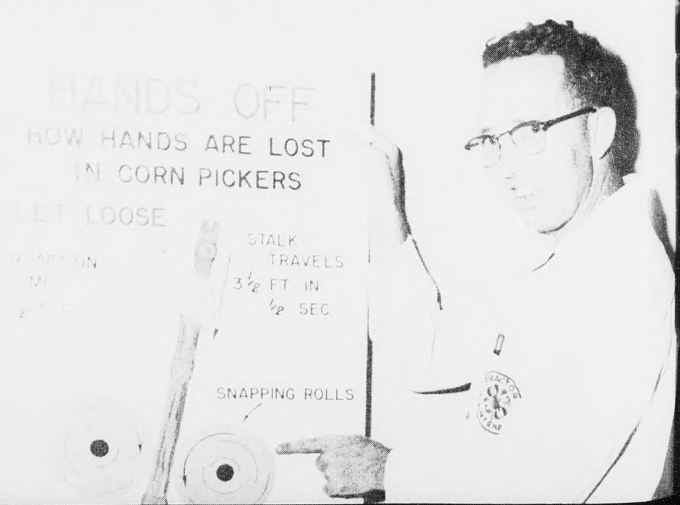
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HANDS OFF
HOW HANDS ARE LOST
IN CORN PICKERS
LET LOOSE

STALK
TRAVELS
3 1/2 FT IN
1/2 SEC

SNAPPING ROLLS



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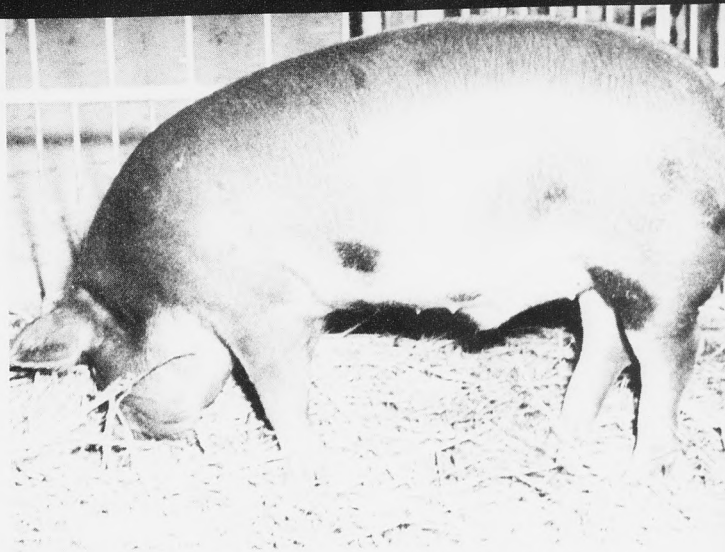
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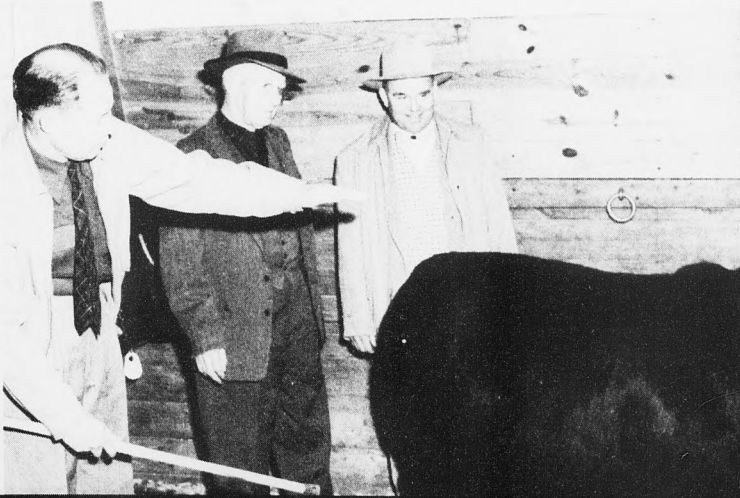
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Emphasis has been placed upon a meaty hog. These changes have come about as a result of the consumer demand for lean meat. In Maryland, we have emphasized to producers the need for producing hogs of the lean type. This has been accomplished through carcass demonstrations, selection of leaner hogs at shows and fairs, and stressing the need for adequate protein, improved pasture and more exercise.

The need for trained shearers to facilitate the farmers marketing of his annual wool crop has been recognized and a shearing school is held to train young men in this technique.

The need for keeping weight records to determine degree of production efficiency is being demonstrated to livestock producers by the specialists in Animal Husbandry. Extension

specialists have explained the value of selecting faster gaining animals and advising what records are needed. Demonstrational farms are being sought to assist with this program.

Increased production efficiency is being demonstrated at the feeder calf sales where farmers witness the selling of their calves according to the grade achieved by the animal. This is one of the best known methods of encouraging improvement in all phases of the cow and calf program.

State-wide field days at College Park are held to explain newest developments and to demonstrate proper management practices. The Short Course is primarily an Extension Service function. Its purpose is to teach beginners the important fundamentals of livestock production.

Agronomy

Growing crops and managing soils is a dynamic undertaking. This was clearly demonstrated in 1954 when dry conditions during much of the summer growing period called for a drastic change in the emphasis in Agronomy Extension to meet the needs of farmers in the State. Growing adequate feed supplies has been a long-time program but particular emphasis was placed on meeting the immediate situation.

Educational material was prepared and meetings were held to emphasize that corn silage was an excellent winter roughage that could take the place of scarce hay. Soybeans fit the same situation. Many acres of soybeans grown for grain could be diverted to hay or silage to increase the supply of roughages.

Extension agronomists called attention to the value of sudan grass seedings to increase summer pasturage, or small grain to increase fall pasturage, to save precious hay and silage for winter. Dry weather caused many seeding failures of red clover and alfalfa. Suggestions were made to reseed these crops the latter part of the summer when rains came.

This dry summer was not without its benefits as far as long-time agriculture in the State is concerned. It clearly demonstrated that deep rooted crops such as alfalfa can withstand drought much better than the more shallow rooted grasses and legumes. This will undoubtedly encourage more farmers to use alfalfa.

Chemical herbicides have brought renewed interest in control of weeds. The use of 2,4-D for control of broadleaf weeds in corn increased in 1954 to such an extent that it can now be termed a common practice. In addition, extension

agronomists did much to introduce the use of chemicals for controlling weeds that are troublesome in winter in newly planted grasses and legumes.

Research workers have found new chemicals fairly dependable in controlling Johnson grass. The extension agronomists started a program to make Maryland farmers aware of the serious menace of this perennial grass. Demonstrations were conducted in several parts of the State to show how this grass might be controlled. The year 1954 was the beginning of an all-out effort to greatly reduce Johnson grass.

Tayland, a new wheat variety released by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, has the advantage of a more uniform production year after year than older varieties. The supply of Tayland was greatly increased through the certification program. By 1955 it will be available for general use by farmers.

Since Maryland is a feed deficit state in grains, there is great interest in higher corn yields. This interest has been channeled into 100-bushel corn clubs in several counties. A few years back, 100 bushel yields were rare. In contests this year, in areas with good rain, a number of the contestants reach 150 to 160 bushels. These contests, which are primarily the work of the county agricultural agent and other local men interested in better agriculture in the county, are aided by the extension agronomists who organize the contests, testing moisture and calculating yields.

Soybeans for grain have become a major crop in Maryland. Three years ago yields were much lower because best varieties and cultural methods were unknown. The Agricultural Experiment Station developed tests to give this

information. Extension conducted demonstrations in important soybean counties. In the short period of three years there has been considerable increase in the growing of certified seed of varieties for use in Maryland. During the years of 1950, 1951, and 1952, approximately 100 acres or less of soybeans were grown for certification. In 1953 this was increased to 427 acres and in 1954 to 1314 acres.

This reflects the joint effort of research workers and extension workers and shows the rapid change that can take place when sound information is available for farmers of the State.

Soil testing increased rapidly in 1954. In 1953, 9,620 samples were tested by the State Laboratory, in 1954, 19,127 were tested. This great increase was due in no small measure to soil tests required as a part of the ACP program for use of lime. However, it has given the opportunity for extending soil test information to many more farmers in the State. The Soil Testing Laboratory has made changes which make the handling of samples more efficient. A crushing machine for preparing the samples for analysis was built by the Agricultural Engineering Department and is now in use in the Soil Testing Laboratory, improving the efficiency of handling samples. The methods of analyzing for phosphorus and potassium were improved so that the test results would more accurately indicate the need for fertilizer on Maryland farms.

Field Days at principal Experiment Station locations the past few years has brought Maryland farmers much closer to the actual experimental work that is conducted for their benefit. This has led to the request from farmers in all parts

of the State for more demonstrations in their home counties to help them to decide the best field crop and soil practices for their particular conditions. Requests for demonstrations have been well beyond the facilities of the Agronomy Department to aid in the conducting of these demonstrations. Of important interest during the past year were demonstrations on the use of various fertilizers on wheat, fertility practices on corn, the selection of the proper hybrids for the mountain areas of the State, and comparative yield of soybean varieties.

Tobacco is a very important source of cash income to Maryland farmers. The extension tobacco specialist, working with the county agents in these counties conducted many demonstrations and field meetings to improve tobacco culture. The principal demonstrations and meetings concerned:

1. The selection of proper strains or varieties for successful tobacco production.
2. The use of good practices in establishing plant beds.
3. The use of good practices in the growing of healthy plants in order to get the tobacco crop started.
4. The selection of soils and cropping systems that are best for tobacco production.
5. The fertilization that will aid in high production while maintaining good quality tobacco.
6. The field care in the growing of tobacco.
7. Harvesting that will result in high market value.
8. Proper grading and marketing.

Work on controlling tobacco disease and toward mechanizing tobacco production went forward.

Visitors at this demonstration in Talbot county in June saw this oat variety test, plus many plots of other small grains.



Emphasis has been placed upon a meaty hog. These changes have come about as a result of the consumer demand for lean meat. In Maryland, we have emphasized to producers the need for producing hogs of the lean type. This has been accomplished through carcass demonstrations, selection of leaner hogs at shows and fairs, and stressing the need for adequate protein, improved pasture and more exercise.

The need for trained shearers to facilitate the farmers marketing of his annual wool crop has been recognized and a shearing school is held to train young men in this technique.

The need for keeping weight records to determine degree of production efficiency is being demonstrated to livestock producers by the specialists in Animal Husbandry. Extension

specialists have explained the value of selecting faster gaining animals and advising what records are needed. Demonstrational farms are being sought to assist with this program.

Increased production efficiency is being demonstrated at the feeder calf sales where farmers witness the selling of their calves according to the grade achieved by the animal. This is one of the best known methods of encouraging improvement in all phases of the cow and calf program.

State-wide field days at College Park are held to explain newest developments and to demonstrate proper management practices. The Short Course is primarily an Extension Service function. Its purpose is to teach beginners the important fundamentals of livestock production.

Agronomy

Growing crops and managing soils is a dynamic undertaking. This was clearly demonstrated in 1954 when dry conditions during much of the summer growing period called for a drastic change in the emphasis in Agronomy Extension to meet the needs of farmers in the State. Growing adequate feed supplies has been a long-time program but particular emphasis was placed on meeting the immediate situation.

Educational material was prepared and meetings were held to emphasize that corn silage was an excellent winter roughage that could take the place of scarce hay. Soybeans fit the same situation. Many acres of soybeans grown for grain could be diverted to hay or silage to increase the supply of roughages.

Extension agronomists called attention to the value of sudan grass seedings to increase summer pasturage, or small grain to increase fall pasturage, to save precious hay and silage for winter. Dry weather caused many seeding failures of red clover and alfalfa. Suggestions were made to reseed these crops the latter part of the summer when rains came.

This dry summer was not without its benefits as far as long-time agriculture in the State is concerned. It clearly demonstrated that deep rooted crops such as alfalfa can withstand drought much better than the more shallow rooted grasses and legumes. This will undoubtedly encourage more farmers to use alfalfa.

Chemical herbicides have brought renewed interest in control of weeds. The use of 2,4-D for control of broadleaf weeds in corn increased in 1954 to such an extent that it can now be termed a common practice. In addition, extension

agronomists did much to introduce the use of chemicals for controlling weeds that are troublesome in winter in newly planted grasses and legumes.

Research workers have found new chemicals fairly dependable in controlling Johnson grass. The extension agronomists started a program to make Maryland farmers aware of the serious menace of this perennial grass. Demonstrations were conducted in several parts of the State to show how this grass might be controlled. The year 1954 was the beginning of an all-out effort to greatly reduce Johnson grass.

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Botany

Programs of plant disease control are necessary for high production of good quality fruits, vegetables, tobacco, grains, and lumber. Assistance in diagnosis of plant diseases for commercial growers as well as for the suburban homeowner and recommendations for control are provided.

A total of 73 meetings were attended by pathologists where plant disease control programs were discussed before approximately 5,200 people. Visits were made to 1,006 farms. Demonstrations of plant disease control were conducted at the Fruit Research Laboratory, Hancock; at the Vegetable Research Farm, Salisbury; at the Tobacco Research Farm, Upper Marlboro; and at the College Plant Research Farm near Beltsville. Field days provided opportunities for farmers to examine these demonstrations and discuss their problems.

Growing plants is an important phase of tobacco production. The Extension Service conducts a reminder and information service by postal card for control of plant bed diseases and pests. A total of 5,600 cards were mailed from five county agent offices. More growers have been applying fungicides for disease control each year; thus, there is not need to obtain plants elsewhere and risk the danger of introducing serious soil-borne diseases. Black shank and Granville wilt, two serious soil-borne diseases, continued to spread but summer drought has reduced losses. Strains of Maryland tobacco resistant to black shank have been developed.

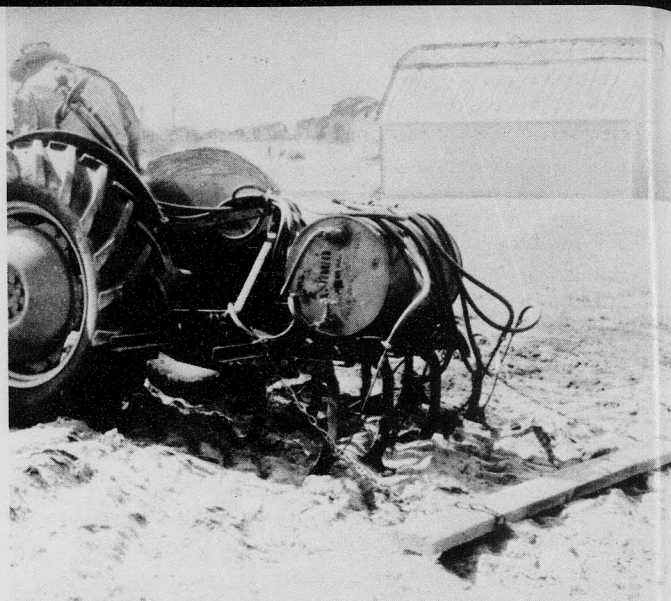
Black Shank

Counties	Number Farms	Increase 1954	Acres	Increase 1954
Anne Arundel	6	0	46	0
Calvert	9	1	40	2
Charles	8	1	78	2.5
Prince Georges	10	2	81	21
St. Marys	19	1	88	5
TOTAL	52	5	333	28.5

Granville Wilt

Counties	Number Farms	Increase 1954	Acres	Increase 1954
Anne Arundel	1	0	10	0
Calvert	0	0	0	0
Charles	14	2	81	10
Prince Georges	4	2	5.25	.25
St. Marys	2	2	3	3
TOTAL	21	6	99.25	13.25

Estimated production of commercial apples in Maryland in 1954 was 1,485,000 bushels. Disease and pest con-



Treating soil with fumigant to control root knot nematode in Anne Arundel county. Chemicals are powerful new allies.

trol practices must be followed annually to grow marketable fruit free from blemish or injury. Nine fruit meetings were held in five counties with an attendance of 800 growers. Copies of the Maryland Spray Calendar was supplied to 3000 persons.

Fire blight of apples caused unusual and severe damage in all fruit-growing regions. In a college orchard, an antibiotic chemical containing streptomycin sulfate was sprayed on a susceptible variety. Fire blight was controlled where the streptomycin was used when other susceptible varieties were severely diseased. Thus, the apple and pear blight disease, so destructive for many years, may be more easily controlled.

Control of powdery mildew of apple was studied in orchard demonstrations when a new fungicide, dinitro phenyl crotonate, became available. Captan-sprayed apple trees had 100 per cent infection while the new fungicide reduced the infection on new growth to 20 per cent.

Root knot nematode damage on crops in Maryland is confined chiefly to the light, sandy soils of the Eastern Shore and southern Maryland. A soil fumigation demonstration on four vegetable crops and tobacco was conducted in Anne Arundel county. The fumigant was ethylene dibromide, used at the rate of five gallons per acre. On the vegetable crops, roots in the untreated soil were heavily infected while roots in treated soil had only a few galls. Yields of vegetable crops were in favor of treatment, two to one on cantaloupe, pepper and tomatoes. A new bulletin was prepared on control of root knot disease.

Asparagus: Rust has become the most serious disease on the large acreage of asparagus in the northern counties on the Eastern Shore. Studies made since 1952 indicate the

best control measures to be cutting of the crop in the spring to prevent early infection and the use and development of resistant varieties.

Sweet Corn: Bacterial wilt of corn caused heavy loss to a number of canners where susceptible varieties were heavily planted. Canners were advised to plant resistant varieties of sweet corn, or they may apply insecticides early in the summer to reduce flea beetle population. The bacterium over-winters in the bodies of flea beetles.

Tomatoes: A spray plot demonstration was continued at the Vegetable Research Farm at Salisbury. Data from these tests involving a number of fungicides show the value and the limitations of a spray program. This information has been presented to canners and farmers at winter meetings.

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Beans and Lima Beans: Poor stands occurred in early plantings and locally in late plantings as a result of seed decay, damping-off, and root rot. The use of combination

fungicide-insecticide seed treatments was demonstrated in 1954 and is being recommended to avoid losses from poor stands.

Sweet potatoes: In the early spring a meeting of sweet potato growers was held near Salisbury and was well attended. Methods of controlling diseases were outlined in detail at this meeting.

Cucumbers, Melons: In early July an outbreak of downy mildew occurred in unsprayed cantaloupe and cucumber fields and occasioned considerable loss. Growers were advised to follow the spray program which has been developed and has been recommended for several years.

Cauliflower, Broccoli: Downy mildew continued to present a problem for growers of fall crop broccoli. A demonstration plot designed to illustrate the value and limitations of several fungicides was established at the Vegetable Research Farm at Salisbury. This plot was destroyed by the hurricane in October before final results could be observed.

Potatoes: Since potato scab has caused losses in the Snow Hill area for several years, three scab resistant varieties (Cherokee, Menominee, and Ontario) were tested on the farms of three prominent potato growers in that area. The variety Cherokee appears to have promise.

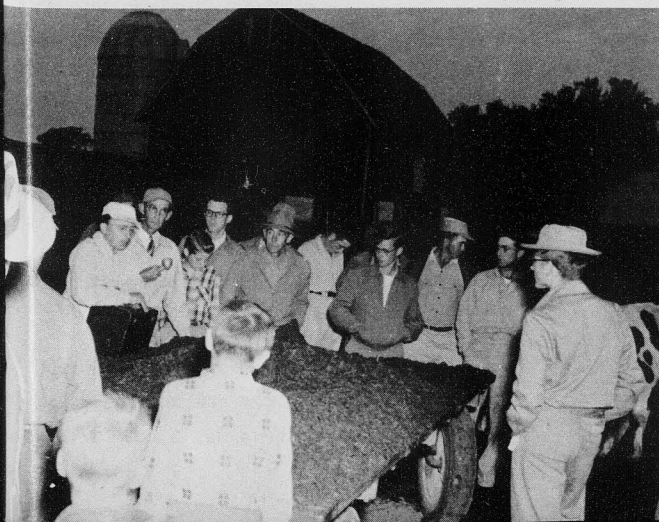
Dairy

During the past year Maryland dairymen have been faced with the most critical decline in prices since the thirties, together with poor feeding conditions caused by drought. Despite these difficulties the number of cattle kept for milk production has not declined, and the volume of milk produced was at an all time high. Surpluses continued to be the major problem influencing the market.

To meet these problems, major Extension emphasis has been to encourage large scale culling of low producing cows. Furthermore, efforts have been made to encourage a more aggressive approach, by farm groups, to advertising and merchandising dairy products. Low prices for beef have hampered the culling program. Real progress is being made in greater promotion of dairy products.

Farm tours and twilight meetings have proved popular with farmers. This farmer used grass silage in pasture shortage.

Cecil County dairymen gather in the Carl Feucht and Son barn to discuss dairy production records and history of the herd.



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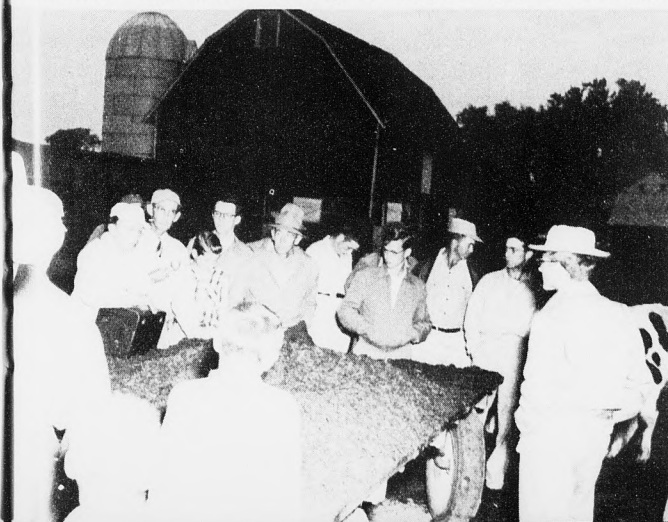
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Extension Dairyman, right, consults with Franklin Moffet, Kent county dairyman, about pasture and management problems.

Working through well organized dairy groups and winter meetings have continued to be the best methods of disseminating information. Barn meetings, demonstrations and farm tours hold much promise in reaching farmers who do not attend the regular county meetings. During the year 284 addresses were delivered, 398 meetings attended, 654 dairy farmers visited (individually) and 521 county agent visits were made.

Meetings in which feeding and management problems were primary topics of discussion were held in 11 counties, with a total attendance of about 1,600 dairymen. In addition, these problems received some attention at all D.H.I.A., breed association and youth meetings.

Topics receiving major attention during the year were as follows:

1. Silage—methods of preserving, storing and feeding;
2. Use of farm grown grains;
3. Barn construction, with special emphasis on loose-housing;
4. Pipeline milking system and cold wall tanks;
5. Dehorning and foot-trimming;
6. Mastitis control, and,
7. Brucellosis eradication.

The last topic received special attention this year, since the state-wide testing plan becomes effective January 1, 1955.

Service through the Maryland Artificial Breeding Cooperative continued to increase, with about 8 percent more cows being bred than the previous year. Service is available in 21 counties. This program has reached 6,600 Maryland

dairymen since 1946. In the past year 44,108 cows have been bred, which represents about 17 percent of the milk cows in Maryland.

Bulls used in this program are soundly proven, with high transmitting ability. Their tested daughters have averaged 11,076 pounds of milk and 487 pounds of fat on a mature equivalent basis. This is 99 pounds higher than the average production of all cows enrolled in the state Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

It is well recognized that purebred breeders play an important role in guiding the dairy industry. It is essential that Extension cooperate with the various purebred groups in promoting the dairy industry and developing leadership.

Breed association activities are numerous, including educational exhibits, dairy tours, demonstrations, fairs and judging schools. This year a total of 18 Field Days were held, where 1,348 dairy animals were exhibited by 488 exhibitors. Another major activity that provides an excellent opportunity to disseminate extension information are district planning meetings and the annual meetings. This year there were 25 district meetings, and five annual meetings drawing a total of about 2,000 dairymen.

Special efforts were made to work closely with the youth, in teaching them improved dairy practices, proper feeding and management, record keeping and recognition of good dairy type animals. The most satisfactory means of working with youth clubs is through demonstrations and in advising individuals on their dairy record books.

The 4-H Club youngsters were successful in their judging contests. The Maryland team won first at the National, competing against 32 other states.

Production testing was conducted through three programs; Dairy Herd Improvement Association, Herd Improvement Registry, and Advanced Registry. During the year 922 herds with 35,796 cows were enrolled in the D.H.I.A. program, 134 herds with 5,069 cows enrolled in H.I.R. and only 27 breeders had 487 dairy cows tested under the A. R. program.

The D.H.I.A. reached a new high during 1954. Forty-five associations were actively functioning in 19 of the 23 counties, testing 4,093 more dairy cows than last year. Educational meetings were held during the year to assist dairymen in obtaining the maximum use of the D.H.I.A. program.

The average production for all of the cows enrolled in D.H.I.A. was 8789 pounds of milk and 353 pounds of butterfat (or 9668 pounds of milk and 388 pounds of butterfat, on a mature equivalent basis). Although this production is slightly below the national D.H.I.A. average, it indicates the progress that has been made when compared to average production for all dairy cows in the state which is 5700 pounds of milk, 222 pounds of butterfat.

Entomology

Insects, good or bad, touch everybody—dairyman, livestock man, poultryman, fruit grower, trucker, canner, tobacco grower and general farmer; country, suburban and city dweller; home maker, home owner and renter; work and pleasure seeker. The University of Maryland entomology program is meeting the demands for help on insect problems all over the State.

To increase our usefulness on control of injurious insects a survey entomologist was put to work so that more timely recommendations could be issued. Special surveys were made on cattle grubs, armyworms, alfalfa weevil and other destructive hay insects, wireworm and cutworms on vegetables, corn insects, Japanese beetle, stored grain insects, sawflies on pine trees, and the white fringed beetle. Information was gathered this year on over 200 pest species.

This information gained was released in 24 issues of Maryland Insect Notes, 20 news releases, 16 radio transcriptions, one television show, and 49 weekly reports to the U.S.D.A. Economic Insect Survey Report.

Telling and showing how to control insects infesting hay crops, which are the foundation of Maryland's dairy and meat industries, has become a major project. Nine indoor and six field meetings were held in 11 counties from Caroline to Frederick, 13 spraying demonstrations in 10 counties, and over 150 visits, usually with county agents, were made to farms all over the State to check situations, give advice, and determine results of spraying.

Fully one-fourth of Maryland's half million acres of hay are now sprayed for insects.

Extension has assisted and advised many communities with projects to control Dutch Elm disease, mosquitoes and other pests.

Demonstrations again showed the value of spraying alfalfa. The yields on eight demonstration fields were increased from 18 to 100 percent, average increase 53 percent. Most outstanding were the plots on the Lupo Farm in Baltimore County and those at the Agronomy Research Farm in Montgomery county. In Baltimore county alfalfa from the first cutting was doubled—2 tons per acre (field dried hay) against 1 ton per acre without spray. At the Research Farm alfalfa yields for the year were increased from 2.6 tons to 4 tons.

Control of flies was emphasized in demonstrations in all 23 counties, using pyrethrum and methoxychlor on the animals and malathion-sugar baits in buildings. A total of 146 barn demonstrations were carried out.

Agents agreed that the malathion bait spray in buildings is the most effective and economical means of fly control farm people have ever used. Roscoe Brown (Washington county) said, "All cooperators give enthusiastic testimonials on malathion for fly control." Ray Mueller (Cecil county) said, "This bait demonstrated the easy way of controlling flies and soon more farmers clamored for information on it. Farmer told farmer to spread the news." Harry Beggs (Dorchester county) questioned 20 farmers—five said it was as good as other fly killers they had used; 15 said it was better.

The greatest of all demands, is for help on little insect problems about the home—the flower and vegetable garden, fruit and shade trees, home furnishings, and buildings. Requests for talks came from ten garden clubs during the year, 45 homes were visited, and some 800 letters and tele-

Wicomico County Agent Jim Brown demonstrating control of weevils with grain protecting dust. Weevils cause serious losses.





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Special efforts were made to work closely with the youth, in teaching them improved dairy practices, proper feeding and management, record keeping and recognition of good dairy type animals. The most satisfactory means of working with youth clubs is through demonstrations and in advising individuals on their dairy record books.

The 4-H Club youngsters were successful in their judging contests. The Maryland team won first at the National, competing against 32 other states.

Production testing was conducted through three programs; Dairy Herd Improvement Association, Herd Improvement Registry, and Advanced Registry. During the year 922 herds with 35,796 cows were enrolled in the D.H.I.A. program, 134 herds with 5,069 cows enrolled in H.I.R. and only 27 breeders had 487 dairy cows tested under the A. R. program.

The D.H.I.A. reached a new high during 1954. Forty-five associations were actively functioning in 19 of the 23 counties, testing 4,093 more dairy cows than last year. Educational meetings were held during the year to assist dairymen in obtaining the maximum use of the D.H.I.A. program.

The average production for all of the cows enrolled in D.H.I.A. was 8789 pounds of milk and 353 pounds of butterfat (or 9668 pounds of milk and 388 pounds of butterfat, on a mature equivalent basis). Although this production is slightly below the national D.H.I.A. average, it indicates the progress that has been made when compared to average production for all dairy cows in the state which is 5700 pounds of milk, 222 pounds of butterfat.

Entomology

Insects, good or bad, touch everybody—dairyman, livestock man, poultryman, fruit grower, trucker, canner, tobacco grower and general farmer; country, suburban and city dweller; home maker, home owner and renter; work and pleasure seeker. The University of Maryland entomology program is meeting the demands for help on insect problems all over the State.

To increase our usefulness on control of injurious insects a survey entomologist was put to work so that more timely recommendations could be issued. Special surveys were made on cattle grubs, armyworms, alfalfa weevil and other destructive hay insects, wireworm and cutworms on vegetables, corn insects, Japanese beetle, stored grain insects, sawflies on pine trees, and the white fringed beetle. Information was gathered this year on over 200 pest species.

This information gained was released in 24 issues of Maryland Insect Notes, 20 news releases, 16 radio transcriptions, one television show, and 49 weekly reports to the U.S.D.A. Economic Insect Survey Report.

Telling and showing how to control insects infesting hay crops, which are the foundation of Maryland's dairy and meat industries, has become a major project. Nine indoor and six field meetings were held in 11 counties from Caroline to Frederick, 13 spraying demonstrations in 10 counties, and over 150 visits, usually with county agents, were made to farms all over the State to check situations, give advice, and determine results of spraying.

Fully one-fourth of Maryland's half million acres of hay are now sprayed for insects.

Extension has assisted and advised many communities with projects to control Dutch Elm disease, mosquitoes and other pests.

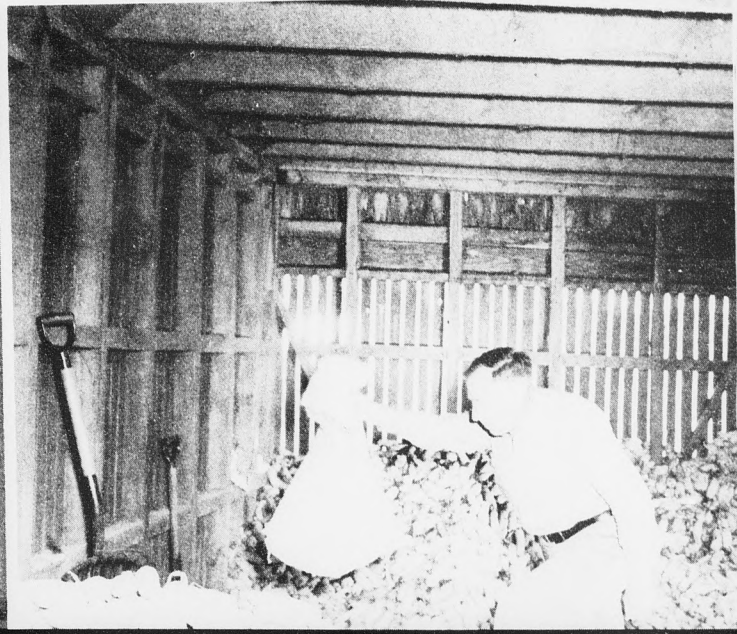
Demonstrations again showed the value of spraying alfalfa. The yields on eight demonstration fields were increased from 18 to 100 percent, average increase 53 percent. Most outstanding were the plots on the Lupo Farm in Baltimore County and those at the Agronomy Research Farm in Montgomery county. In Baltimore county alfalfa from the first cutting was doubled—2 tons per acre (field dried hay) against 1 ton per acre without spray. At the Research Farm alfalfa yields for the year were increased from 2.6 tons to 4 tons.

Control of flies was emphasized in demonstrations in all 23 counties, using pyrethrum and methoxychlor on the animals and malathion-sugar baits in buildings. A total of 146 barn demonstrations were carried out.

Agents agreed that the malathion bait spray in buildings is the most effective and economical means of fly control farm people have ever used. Roscoe Brown (Washington county) said, "All cooperators give enthusiastic testimonials on malathion for fly control." Ray Mueller (Cecil county) said, "This bait demonstrated the easy way of controlling flies and soon more farmers clamored for information on it. Farmer told farmer to spread the news." Harry Beggs (Dorchester county) questioned 20 farmers—five said it was as good as other fly killers they had used; 15 said it was better.

The greatest of all demands, is for help on little insect problems about the home—the flower and vegetable garden, fruit and shade trees, home furnishings, and buildings. Requests for talks came from ten garden clubs during the year, 45 homes were visited, and some 800 letters and tele-

Wicomico County Agent Jim Brown demonstrating control of weevils with grain protecting dust. Weevils cause serious losses.





Part of the 100th Anniversary of Entomology exhibit at State Fair, illustrating effective new sweetened bait fly control.

phone calls were answered regarding garden or household troubles.

An exhibit on insects damaging clothing shown at the State Fair and other places drew 269 requests for a publication. A special problem this fall was the boxelder bug, a household pest which was troublesome in at least 16 counties.

Thanks to the long continued work of the Entomology Department, the Japanese beetle has become a minor

agricultural pest in the State, however, it still demands much attention from suburban dwellers around Baltimore and Washington and is still spreading in southern Maryland.

The research and extension entomologists are continuing vigorous work on insect pests of canning crops—peas, sweet corn, tomatoes, snap beans, lima beans and others. Much progress has been made the last two years.

Since the invasion of Maryland by the Mexican bean beetle in 1928 the average snap bean production has never exceeded 1.8 tons per acre. Before the bean beetle occurred in the State, annual average yields of over 2.0 tons were often attained. In commercial demonstrations with insecticides and equipment conducted in Carroll, Caroline and Talbot counties in 1954, 4 or more tons of top quality snap beans were produced per acre.

1954 was a milestone for entomology—100 years since men were first employed in America by federal and state governments to help people with their insect problems. Maryland's main part in this celebration was a special exhibit at the State Fair. Some of the four sections were used in three other fairs, or shows this year.

Forestry

The Extension Forestry program in 1954 continued to be largely one of education and demonstration. Slightly more than 3,250 persons attended 44 farm forestry demonstrations.

These demonstrations covered reforestation of idle land, windbreak planting, woodland management, pruning and thinning of forest trees, suppression of forest fires, the chipping of trees and brush for livestock bedding, growing Christmas trees and the proper harvesting of holly and other woodland greenery for Christmas decorations.

Twelve news releases and three magazine articles brought timely topics of interest to many Maryland residents. In addition, the Extension Forester gave 53 talks relating to the importance and management of the forests and farm woodlots of the State.

Six hundred twenty-three 4-H Club boys and girls were enrolled in forestry, nature study, soil and water and wildlife conservation projects during 1954.

Making Christmas decorations from evergreens, properly gathered from the woods, was a popular activity much enjoyed by members of the Maryland Homemakers Clubs and 4-H boys and girls.

In 19 demonstrations and workshops, the Extension Forester showed and trained a total of 1,500 persons how to combine evergreen with odds and ends about the house in making attractive decorations for home use, gifts or for sale for extra income.

Extension Forester demonstrates pruning of trees planted to protect Hagerstown's watershed. City Water Superintendent Willson watches. More than 20,000 acres of Maryland forests require pruning to produce high quality, knot-free lumber. This tool, a pruning sawhead on an axe handle, makes it easy.



4-H Club Work

4-H Club work in Maryland has completed another successful year. Working in 1954 under the theme of "Working Together for World Understanding" club members became increasingly conscious of their responsibility and the importance of the individual in world affairs.

The 4-H Club program is strongly supported by many Maryland organizations and interests.

"I owe it all to my 4-H Club work". Time after time we hear young people make this statement. As they grow older and find success in school, community and home life and in the business world they realize how much 4-H Club training has contributed to their development. They have learned to manage themselves, to build up good work habits; they have learned skills, but most important, they have learned to work and play and get along with others.

The agriculture and home economics project activities were carried on through the State with much interest and vigor during 1954. In general, the projects were larger and the quality of records turned in reached a substantially higher level. The following is a summary of 4-H Club member participation:

Clothing, 4,073; vegetable growing, 2,000; foods, 5,057; dairy, 1,418; livestock, 1,651; poultry, 1,063; broiler production, 134; conservation, 623; home beautification, 196; field crops, 913; recreation and rural arts, 553; public speaking, 178; tractor maintenance, 691; home management, 1,377; and home furnishing, 2,281.

This year over 122 Maryland 4-H Club members prided themselves in friends and contacts they made beyond the borders of the State by taking a very active part in international, national, and sectional activities such as National 4-H Club Camp, International Farm Youth Exchange, National 4-H Club Congress, Camp Miniwanca, Interstate 4-H All-Star Conference; "Fore" State Conference at Jackson's

Mill, W. Va., Tri-State YMW Conference, Pocono, Pa., and the Rhode Island State 4-H Club Camp.

The International Farm Youth program was carried on in the State with Maryland acting as host to two young farm youth from Luxembourg and New Zealand. One Maryland youth spent three months on farms in Belgium.

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A highlight of the year's club activities is the National 4-H Club Camp held at Washington, D. C. The theme was "Know Your Government". Maryland was represented by Peggy Pfefferkorn of Howard county, Julia Weagley of Washington county, Robert Dorsey of Montgomery county, and George Wills of Baltimore county.

A few of the highlights of 4-H Club activities were: Farm safety was carried on with 1,828 4-H Club members taking part in the Maryland Safety program. One-hundred eighty-nine members carried 4-H safety projects, over 156 Farm Safety farm inspections were completed, 92 Farm and Fire Safety demonstrations were given, and Wicomico county received the state safety plaque.

For the past 30 years Maryland has been ranking high in national and international judging contests. This year the Maryland 4-H Dairy team representing the USA at the Royal Show in England, placed fourth. The dairy team judging at the National Dairy Congress at Waterloo, Iowa placed first. This is the eleventh time in 29 years that Maryland 4-H dairy teams placed first at a national dairy show.

The tractor program progressed toward its goal of more farm youth being conscious of the need of better care of farm tractors. Seven hundred boys carried projects of trac-

Calvert assistant agent, right, explains proper management of tobacco plant growing to club leader and 4-H Club boy.

After the show was over, these 4-H'ers came back to study the exhibits to see why one bird won first, and another second.





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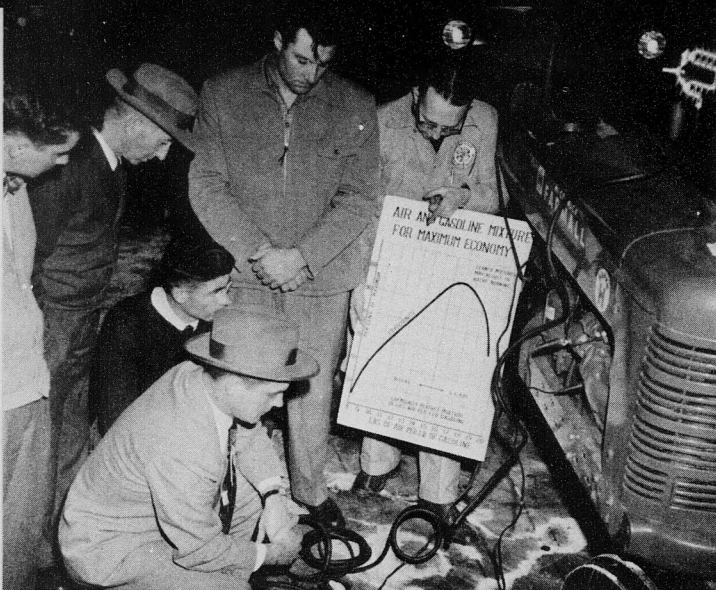
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A 4-H Tractor Maintenance Leader's training meeting in an Elkton implement company. Extension engineer is instructor.

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Farm and Home Electric enrolled 355 members with the help of 51 local 4-H Club leaders carrying out a very broad electric program with 154 members giving 154 demonstrations. Baltimore county received the plaque for greatest member interest in the electric program.

The camping program expanded following a 4-H camp training workshop for staff and local 4-H Club leaders. Eleven camps were held in the State with over 700 boys and girls taking a very active part in camping activities.

State 4-H Club Week in August is not only a glorious time for the boys and girls who attend, but is definitely a leadership training ground for adult and junior leaders.

Dorchester county 4-H girl demonstrates at the State Fair. Demonstrating in public helps give 4-H'ers poise and confidence.



The Elkton Kiwanis club sponsors a 4-H potato growing project. Kiwanians give a 4-H'er 100 pounds of seed potatoes.

Over 1,400 persons attended this year. Extension is not so concerned with an adult standard of efficiency that week as they are with giving hundreds of young people an opportunity to assume responsibility on the State level. They grow visibly as they swing into the rhythm of a big undertaking knowing that their part counts in the over-all picture.

Training meetings for writing 4-H records and stories; for learning to preside and speak in public; and training meetings for club officers all help to give 4-H Club members a feeling of confidence when opportunity come to them to perform.

At the Maryland State Fair the girls' program was expanded this year with more demonstrations scheduled and more exhibits brought in by club members. Members showed 485 articles of clothing, 1,289 food exhibits, 44 club float exhibits, 684 head of livestock at the Fair.

These are the first sewing efforts of this group of beginning Queen Annes county 4-H girls. They all made aprons.



Horticulture

The weather in 1954 began with a very early spring, followed by an exceptionally dry summer, ending in the fall with a hurricane. Fruit growers responded exceptionally well to Extension efforts because the extreme weather called for extra careful operation.

Growers applied sprays thoroughly although no serious disease or insect threat developed. Fruit thinning demonstration recommendations were followed almost completely. The results of these good practices were upset by the drought which affected fruit size, speeded up ripening, brought insect injury season nearer harvest and caused considerable confusion in marketing.

Press releases, news letters, radiocasts, circular letters, bulletins and personal correspondence were used freely to furnish information. More than 1,200 letters were written in answer to inquiries. One new leaflet was printed, several mimeographed publications were issued and the commercial spray calendar was revised.

Fruit specialists made 149 advisory visits to growers. The two-day winter meeting attracted growers from all parts of Maryland and surrounding states. The summer field meeting was held in cooperation with the Virginia fruit growers. A tour of a processing plant showed growers how their peaches were canned for the consumer. Other regional meetings reached smaller growers.

To encourage better practices, the specialists conducted 40 pruning demonstrations, in 11 counties and 38 fruit-thinning demonstrations in 15 counties. Control methods for orchard mice were shown with methods of tree-grafting to repair mouse damage. Better fertilization methods, cover crop and soil management were demonstrated in four orchards and two berry plantings.

County agents were kept informed or instructed through special letters, visits and demonstrations so they could handle local calls for assistance. Specialists cooperated

actively with grower organizations on sales promotion, marketing and other grower and industry problems.

The primary purpose of the Extension program in vegetable crops is to teach commercial vegetable growers how to efficiently produce maximum yields of high quality products. Controllable factors which influence yield and quality are: variety, fertilization, irrigation, weed control, disease control, insect control and proper harvesting.

Teaching methods included literature, demonstrations, visual aids, regional meetings, short courses, correspondence, farm visits, press releases, radio and telecasts. Generally speaking, the goals set for 1954 were exceeded and the time lag between research developments and their application was cut short.

For example, wide distribution of seed stock of improved sweet potato varieties was continued in 1954. The variety Nemagold was distributed in Wicomico county in 1953; growers saved seed stock and greatly expanded their acreage in 1954. Distribution of this new variety was also continued in Southern Maryland. Indications are that this variety of sweet potato will largely replace the older variety, Maryland Golden, within the next year or so.

Seed of the new snap bean, Calvert, and several hybrid strains of savoy-type spinach developed by the USDA were distributed for trial this year. It is hoped that the vigor and disease resistance of hybrid spinach varieties will make it possible to double or triple yields of this crop by 1956. Demonstration plantings of watermelons and early tomatoes were continued.

Vegetable growers saw demonstrations of soil productivity maintenance, fertilizer analyses, rate, placement and timing in two locations. Maryland vegetable growers are taking up chemical weed control rapidly, following Extension's lead. As a result of Extension teaching, mechanical and hand weeding of spinach, lima beans, asparagus and sweet corn have largely been replaced by inexpensive chemical methods.

The youth program in vegetable production was expanded and improved in 1954. Judging and production competition

Extension Horticulturist demonstrates pruning and discusses other orchard management problems in winter orchard meeting.



County Agent, right, and Extension Horticulturist, visit weed control demonstration in spinach. Chemicals made the difference.





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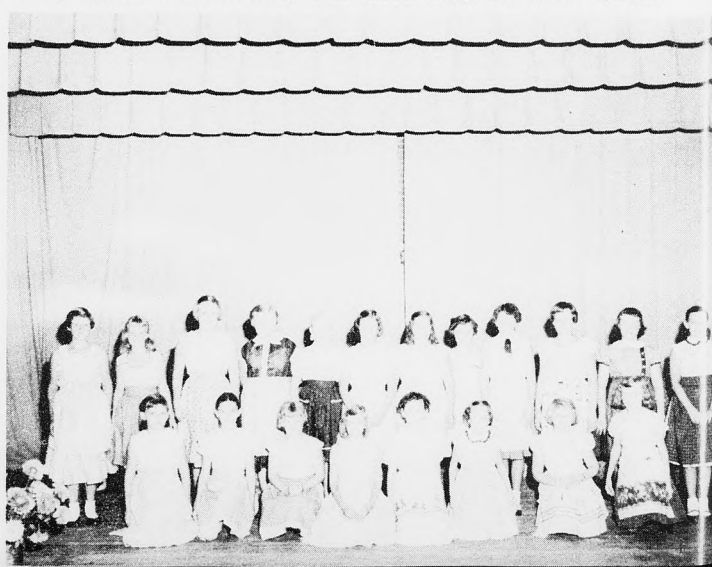
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was held for FFA, 4-H and National Junior Vegetable Growers Association members. The 4-H garden project record book was revised and a simplified vegetable gardening instruction bulletin was written for children at the 10-year level.

Meetings, field days, workshops and short courses were held for growers and processors both at the University of Maryland and at various locations throughout the State.

Extension landscape work is of four types: 1, Consultation and planning service for schools, hospitals and other community projects; 2, leader training with Home-maker clubs; 3, home visits; and 4, mass distribution of information.

During the year, Extension landscape specialists made 58 surveys and completed 46 plans for the following projects in 10 counties: schools, 26; hospitals, 1; churches, 3; pub-

lic buildings, 4; parks and projects, 4; farm homes, 4; country homes, 1; suburban homes, 1.

Landscape plans are not prepared for individual homeowners except when they are to be used as demonstrations. During the year nine lecture tours and demonstrations were conducted in six counties in training leaders of homemakers clubs. Landscape specialists visited 137 homes in nine counties to advise on landscaping problems.

Extension activities in floriculture and ornamental horticulture consisted of direct "on-the-spot" work with florists and growers of cut flowers, potted plants, etc., and with nurserymen throughout the State on problems of management, soil-testing, storage, marketing, new varieties and fertilization procedures. Specialists also presented results of research and technological advances to professional organizations of florists, growers and nurserymen.

Poultry

Expansion of broiler growing in recent years has caused lower prices and loss of markets formerly supplied by Maryland growers. Development of greater efficiency in production and marketing are pressing needs.

Extension has given special emphasis to improving feeds based upon recent research by the University. Results have been presented to growers through various media, especially the nutrition conference of feed manufacturers, attended by 260, and Broiler Field Day.

Feed manufacturers and local millers in all parts of the State and in many other states have been assisted in formulating better rations. This service has aided in reducing feed costs and improving feed conversion.

To illustrate advances in broiler feeds, a special exhibit of four lots of chicks which were fed 1930, 1938, 1946 and 1954 rations respectively, was prepared. At eight weeks the 1930 chicks weighed 1.62 pounds; the 1938 chicks,

1.89; the 1946, 2.17; and the 1954, 2.81. This demonstrated that the feeds used now will provide almost 100% more gain in the same length of time as feeds and rations recommended by best authorities 25 years ago. This exhibit was widely shown, photographed, described and received considerable attention. Practically all farm magazines and poultry journals carried articles and pictures about it.

Cooperation with the Maryland Livestock Sanitary Service in selection and pullorum testing of 480 flocks of nearly 600,000 breeding birds to improve egg broiler production was an important activity to improve the state's poultry breeding stock.

Meetings, outlining farm handling practices to produce Grade A or higher quality eggs, were held in several counties and numerous farm visits were made to point out farm application of these practices. The Westminster Poultry Cooperative Auction was assisted in reorganization of

Jull Hall gives the Poultry Department expanded facilities for research, teaching and Extension. It was dedicated in October.





This boy got his poultry start with a Foundation loan, help and advice from Assistant Agent Garvey and Specialist Twining.

their market program with emphasis on handling nearby high quality eggs. An effort was made to establish quotations on the Baltimore market for higher grades of Maryland eggs which are now going to Philadelphia and New York because of higher prices in those two cities. A minimum of 80 percent Grade A is sought over the present 60 percent minimum Grade A quotations.

Maryland's turkey growers were assisted in selecting superior fleshed birds for breeding purposes. Numerous breeders have been assisted in dressing and marketing activities for the retail trade in supplying "oven-ready" turkeys to Maryland consumers.

One hundred sixty-three boys and girls completed broiler production projects during the year under a systematic plan of record keeping. Poultry and egg judging and demonstration contests were held on a state-wide basis. Teams also took part in Boston and Harrisburg regional meetings. About 250 4-H'ers took part.

Cooperating with the State Poultry Council, Maryland Poultry Day was staged at College Park with about 1,000 persons attending. The occasion was the dedication of the new modern Poultry Science plant and dedication of the American Poultry Hall of Fame. The building was named "Jull Hall" in honor of Dr. Morley A. Jull, distin-

guished long-time head of the University Poultry Department. Special programs for broiler, egg, turkey producers and hatcherymen were presented.

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Four county winter poultry schools were held in cooperation with county agents in addition to two regional winter poultry schools for the Eastern Shore. More than 700 poultrymen took part.

Numerous farmers have been helped with individual problems through farm visits, publications and demonstrations, plus information through radio, news and other publicity mediums. Exhibits were placed at five important events. Specialists demonstrated and judged at 12 fairs and shows.

was held for FFA, 4-H and National Junior Vegetable Growers Association members. The 4-H garden project record book was revised and a simplified vegetable gardening instruction bulletin was written for children at the 10-year level.

Meetings, field days, workshops and short courses were held for growers and processors both at the University of Maryland and at various locations throughout the State.

Extension landscape work is of four types: 1, Consultation and planning service for schools, hospitals and other community projects; 2, leader training with Home-maker clubs; 3, home visits; and 4, mass distribution of information.

During the year, Extension landscape specialists made 58 surveys and completed 46 plans for the following projects in 10 counties: schools, 26; hospitals, 1; churches, 3; pub-

lic buildings, 4; parks and projects, 4; farm homes, 4; country homes, 1; suburban homes, 1.

Landscape plans are not prepared for individual homeowners except when they are to be used as demonstrations. During the year nine lecture tours and demonstrations were conducted in six counties in training leaders of homemakers clubs. Landscape specialists visited 137 homes in nine counties to advise on landscaping problems.

Extension activities in floriculture and ornamental horticulture consisted of direct "on-the-spot" work with florists and growers of cut flowers, potted plants, etc., and with nurserymen throughout the State on problems of management, soil-testing, storage, marketing, new varieties and fertilization procedures. Specialists also presented results of research and technological advances to professional organizations of florists, growers and nurserymen.

Poultry

Expansion of broiler growing in recent years has caused lower prices and loss of markets formerly supplied by Maryland growers. Development of greater efficiency in production and marketing are pressing needs.

Extension has given special emphasis to improving feeds based upon recent research by the University. Results have been presented to growers through various media, especially the nutrition conference of feed manufacturers, attended by 260, and Broiler Field Day.

Feed manufacturers and local millers in all parts of the State and in many other states have been assisted in formulating better rations. This service has aided in reducing feed costs and improving feed conversion.

To illustrate advances in broiler feeds, a special exhibit of four lots of chicks which were fed 1930, 1938, 1946 and 1954 rations respectively, was prepared. At eight weeks the 1930 chicks weighed 1.62 pounds; the 1938 chicks,

1.89; the 1946, 2.17; and the 1954, 2.81. This demonstrated that the feeds used now will provide almost 100% more gain in the same length of time as feeds and rations recommended by best authorities 25 years ago. This exhibit was widely shown, photographed, described and received considerable attention. Practically all farm magazines and poultry journals carried articles and pictures about it.

Cooperation with the Maryland Livestock Sanitary Service in selection and pullorum testing of 480 flocks of nearly 600,000 breeding birds to improve egg broiler production was an important activity to improve the state's poultry breeding stock.

Meetings, outlining farm handling practices to produce Grade A or higher quality eggs, were held in several counties and numerous farm visits were made to point out farm application of these practices. The Westminster Poultry Cooperative Auction was assisted in reorganization of

Jull Hall gives the Poultry Department expanded facilities for research, teaching and Extension. It was dedicated in October.





This boy got his poultry start with a Foundation loan, help and advice from Assistant Agent Garvey and Specialist Twining.

their market program with emphasis on handling nearby high quality eggs. An effort was made to establish quotations on the Baltimore market for higher grades of Maryland eggs which are now going to Philadelphia and New York because of higher prices in those two cities. A minimum of 80 percent Grade A is sought over the present 60 percent minimum Grade A quotations.

Maryland's turkey growers were assisted in selecting superior fleshed birds for breeding purposes. Numerous breeders have been assisted in dressing and marketing activities for the retail trade in supplying "oven-ready" turkeys to Maryland consumers.

One hundred sixty-three boys and girls completed broiler production projects during the year under a systematic plan of record keeping. Poultry and egg judging and demonstration contests were held on a state-wide basis. Teams also took part in Boston and Harrisburg regional meetings. About 250 4-H'ers took part.

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Soil Conservation

The soil and water conservation program in Maryland is progressing very satisfactorily under the leadership of the district supervisors in the 23 Soil Conservation Districts. This progress is largely attributable to the well coordinated assistance given Soil Conservation Districts by the Soil Conservation Service and the University of Maryland Extension Service, as well as other conservation agencies.

The principal problem recognized in getting more conservation on the land is the problem of reaching more farmers with an educational program. As has been stated many times, the same farmers attend all agricultural meetings and tours which are designed to enlighten them on the benefits of following improved practices, including conservation practices.

Considerable thought has been given and some progress made during the past year, in developing ways and means of reaching farmers who do not ordinarily attend such meetings. Many of the Maryland Land Week educational functions were designed with this problem in mind. Of particular interest were the programs developed in Harford and Carroll counties.

During Maryland Land Week in Harford County, six small neighborhood meetings were planned and conducted. The attendance at these meetings totaled 530 people, and a great many of them were farmers who were not accustomed to attending such educational meetings. In Carroll county three small watershed neighborhood twilight meetings were held. It is estimated that approximately 50 farmers attended each of these meetings and learned of the value and

Baltimore County Agent shows one of the reasons why the City of Baltimore suffers from chronic water shortage. The sedimentation problem in the Loch Raven reservoir (in background) is shown in these pictures taken in 1938, 1943 and 1952. Top soil washed from farms into the reservoir is filling it up.

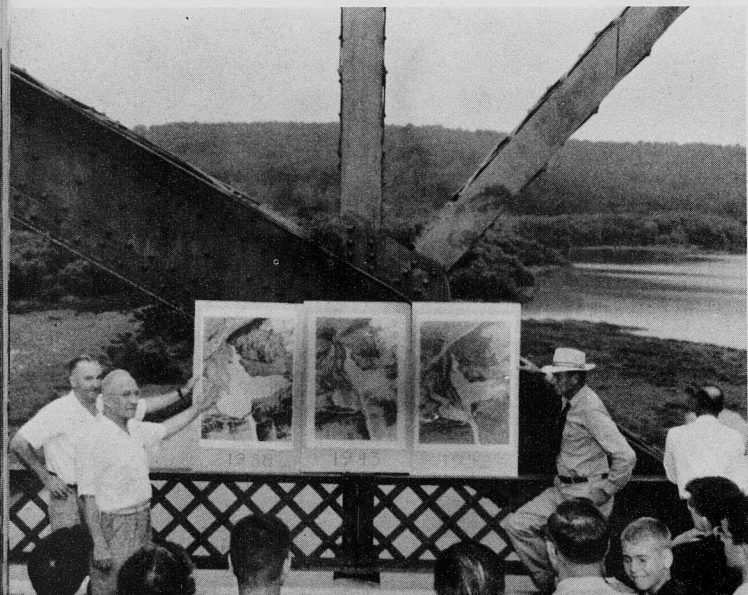
importance of soil and water conservation work from their neighbors. Other Maryland Land Week activities in other counties were designed for the same purpose and with the same thought in mind resulting in reaching approximately 4,000 farmers with a soil and water conservation message.

A similar project was carried out for one day in Wicomico county where a conservation tour, luncheon and panel discussion on irrigation was conducted. The drouth situation in Wicomico county in 1954 and the fact that irrigation was the subject of the panel discussion attracted many new farmers to this educational function.

Second only in importance to the direct educational work in soil and water conservation carried on for adults was the activities arranged for youth organizations. A program of land judging got well underway during the year of 1954 with a great deal of interest being shown. Also, educational materials, exhibits and other assistance given to school teachers indirectly affect the thinking and conservation habits of youth groups in attendance at schools.

Soil Conservation District supervisors have been encouraged to devote one of their regular monthly winter meetings to a discussion of, and the formulation of an educational program in their district. Where such meetings have been held detailed programs have been worked out including a list of the needed educational activities with a calendar for carrying out these activities and the assignment of responsibilities for effectuating such activities. The soil and water conservation education program has accomplished a great deal more in the districts where such a program has been developed.

Why are some soils very productive and others not? The Assistant Extension Soil Conservationist is showing this class in Land Appreciation and Judging some of the differences between good and poor soils. Depth, structure, texture, slope of land and erosion are considerations. Cooperation with 4-H Clubs and vocational agricultural courses is important.



Home Demonstration Work

In development of the Home Demonstration program in the state, the situation is one of meeting the needs of all of the people with basic home economics information. The areas in which the Home Demonstration staff felt the need for concentrated effort were:

1. Meeting the needs of young homemakers.
2. Reaching more people with home visits.
3. Including more home economics subject matter in planned programs.

Meeting the Needs of Young Homemakers: Miss Margaret Smith, the home demonstration agent in Talbot county, set forth this year to determine the needs and attempt to develop some work in one area of her county where there was no Extension program. Miss Smith made five home visits in one community to explain Extension work and what it had to offer. She found one young homemaker who said she had 15 or 20 friends—all mothers of young children—who wanted very much to learn to sew. Within one week's time a group of 16 was ready to meet, and the agent held five work meetings for the group. A second group of six was formed later.

They were delighted with their newly acquired knowledge and report that their training prepared them to continue on their own, to make their children's clothing and simple cotton dresses for themselves. As an out-growth of the original group meeting together and learning more about Extension work, they themselves requested a 4-H Club and two of the group offered to serve as leaders.

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that home visits is an effective way of reaching people who cannot be reached through other methods.

Two assistant home demonstration agents have reported an organized plan for visiting the local 4-H Club leaders in their counties. These agents report the home visits as one of their most satisfactory activities. There was a give-and-take of problems and solutions which was mutually beneficial. A total of 4,116 home visits were made by home demonstration agents and assistant home demonstration agents during 1954.

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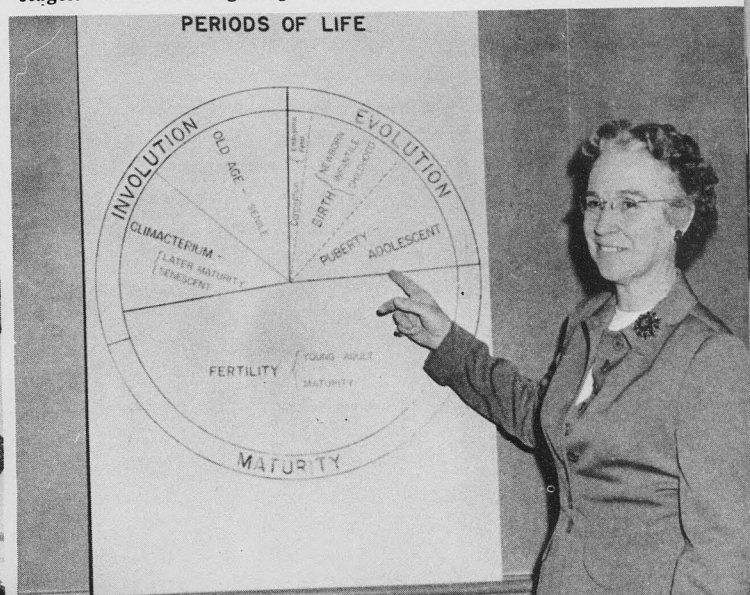
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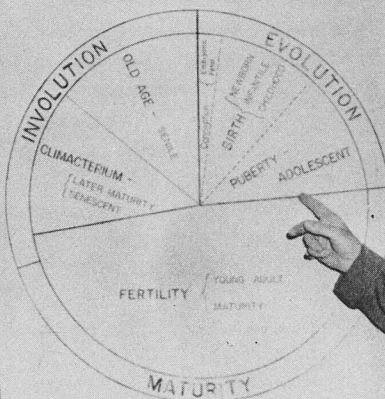
1. Feed their families well-balanced meals.
2. Get the most for their dollar.
3. Know how to buy, make and care for clothes.
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Extension Family Life specialist uses chart to explain life stages. Understanding helps families and groups live together.



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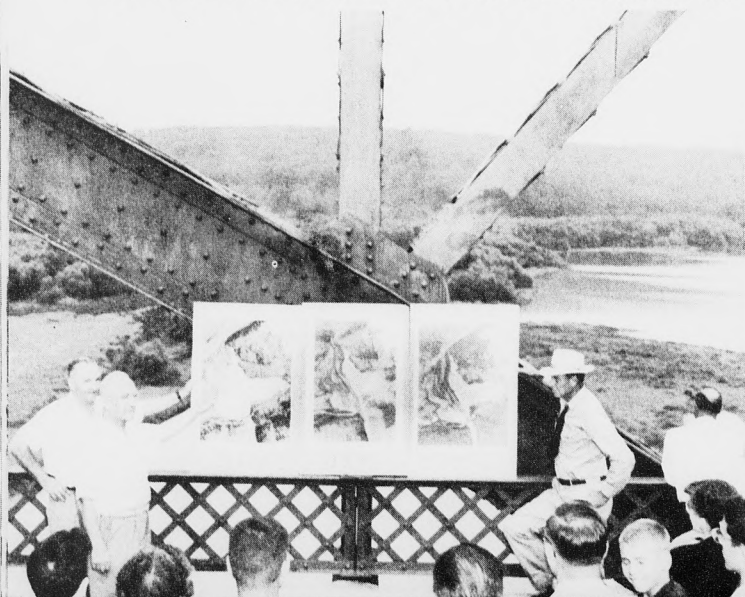
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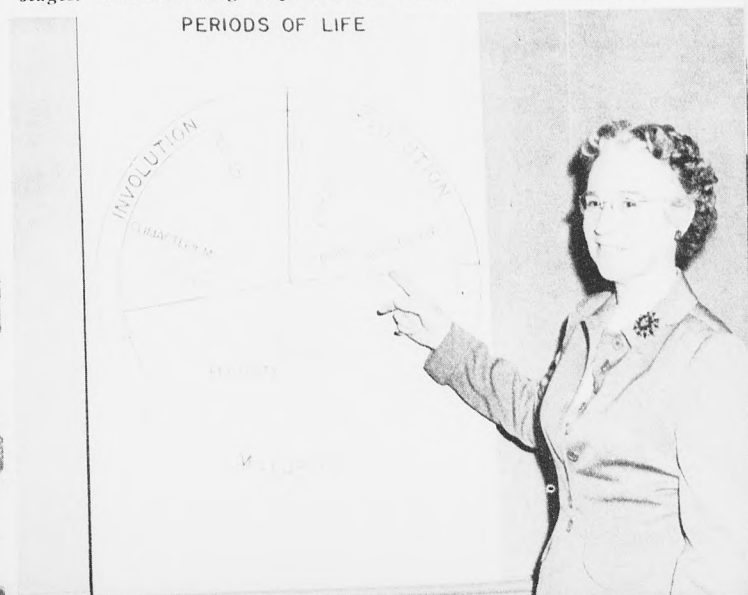
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PERIODS OF LIFE





Good planning is evident in the new kitchen of Mrs. Clawson Smooth, a member of the Baltimore County Homemakers Clubs.

5. Make their homes convenient and attractive.
6. Give wise guidance in family living.
7. Improve their communities.

Clothing

Clothing information reached women in every county of the state through demonstrations in homemakers' groups, meetings and workshops. Timely clothing information was also made available through press, radio and television.

The Extension program in clothing and textiles was planned to give assistance to families in clothing selection; information on buying; training in construction methods; and, help on proper care and repair of clothes. The program resulted in 25,384 families improving clothing practices this year.

Every homemaker is interested in clothing whether or not she does actual sewing. A trend noted during the past three or four years indicates a greater desire for information which contributes to good judgment in planning, selecting and buying of clothing. Over 14,000 families received information which helped them in the selection of fabrics, ready-made clothing and accessories. In Frederick county, 462 women attended a panel discussion between local merchants and homemakers on "Things to Consider in Buying Men's Suits." One hundred sixty-three homemakers in Somerset county received tips on buying clothing in a special visit with merchants in Salisbury.

Homemakers in Washington, Baltimore and Howard counties were given information on foundation garments.

The demand for easy-to-care-for, machine washable, and durable clothing grows ever-greater in order to save time for the homemaker in caring for clothing. Over 18,000 individuals were reached with information on proper meth-



These ladies are learning how to reupholster a chair. The Extension program shows ways to make homes more attractive.

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Home sewing continues to be popular, with 11,312 women and girls being given the opportunity to learn basic clothing construction.

4-H Club girls, numbering 4,940, were trained in clothing construction, good grooming, and proper care of clothing. They completed 6,861 garments. Girls participating in dress revues or clothing achievement days numbered 4,085.

Many homemakers are being trained as clothing leaders to extend information and help to local groups. Local leaders assisting with the clothing program numbered 1,386.

Family Life

Unrest in our homes today, caused by the uncertainty of world conditions, presents the problem of families being "psychologically insecure." A number of things are causing this unrest.

Military training is taking boys and men who are young husbands and fathers, from the home and their regular way of living. Three generations living under one roof and the discipline of children in these homes creates difficulties.

The mobility of our population causes adjustments to be made not only by adults but by the children in changing schools.

Increasing numbers of older persons in many cases causes trouble, especially if the aged father or mother has to go to a son or daughter's home and there are children or youth in the home.

Today, desegregation is creating added problems.

To help our people to live as happily as possible, the family life specialist has given help through training meetings, county-wide, district (county area) and some special group meetings. Topics pertained to better understanding of emotions at different ages.

Discipline of children and better understanding of the teenager have been of especial concern. Discussions have centered around better understanding of the individual and how biological and social factors influence behavior; what behavior might normally be expected at different ages from birth through older years.

The Carroll county home agent following a conference with the specialist, met with 25 Homemakers Clubs and discussed "Making Discipline Easier." Discussion centered around understanding that behavior is caused and that discipline should be mainly of a guidance type.

Because of publicized youth problems, Baltimore county had a county-wide meeting on "Adolescent Development." Because of strong interest the county local project chairmen will be given training next year on teenager problems.

Charles and Queen Anne's counties had discussions and training meetings conducted on "The Emotions of Middle Years." In the discussion, the women learned there is a physical reason for some emotional instability, but that much of it is also due to social factors which cause uncertainty in our society for the older years ahead.

Food and Nutrition

The objectives of the food and nutrition program are to help families understand proper food selection for an adequate diet; to help those who want to lose pounds

These Negro Home Demonstration Agents were trained by Extension Clothing Specialist. Clothing was a major 1954 project.

to select a diet low in calories; to help them serve attractive, nutritious meals quickly and easily; and, to teach those who can and freeze foods to use recommended safe methods.

Each of the 23 counties and Baltimore City carried on some activity in this field. Fourteen counties carried some 4-H food and nutrition projects in food preparation and food preservation.

Weight control received major emphasis. Four community weight control groups have been formed and are functioning in Montgomery county. Mrs. Irma Bell, assistant home agent, working in cooperation with the County Department of Health, helped to organize these groups and worked closely with them. The group of 64 women enrolled lost an average of ten pounds each, while 16 reached the goals they set for themselves in losing weight.

Two of the Montgomery county groups are planning organization. Five other counties—Prince Georges, Worcester, Anne Arundel, Garrett and Baltimore—carried on activities on weight control. These included method demonstrations, discussions and film showings. Forty-eight leaders were trained to give information to their Homemakers Clubs on the subject, "Meals for Thick and Thin."

With many women working outside the home, quick methods of food preparation is a most popular and practical subject. Ten counties conducted method demonstrations for adults to teach them quick methods.

Home Furnishings

Maryland families are seeking information to help them make substantial, economical buys in home furnishings. They want more livable, better decorated homes. They want better designed furniture. People are willing to spend the money for furnishings and are spending more

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for this purpose than ever before. There is always a need to replace, renovate and remake.

The Extension program was designed to supply information to solve as many problems as possible as expressed by homemakers and 4-H girls. Through organized program planning, rural and urban homemakers and 4-H girls requested information they felt they needed to improve their homes. An estimated 18,454 families were reached.

Local leaders were trained in subject matter and leadership. These leaders returned to their communities and passed the information on to the neighbors. Home demonstration agents were trained by the specialist in methods and procedure so they in turn could demonstrate to homemakers and 4-H girls.

Thirty-nine leader training meetings were held in 17 counties for adults and eight in 4-H club room improvement in four counties. These meetings were attended by 1,070. In turn this information was passed on to 9,000 others. There were 317 demonstrations and work meetings held in 16 counties where agents or a trained leader gave home furnishings information directly to 13,667.

Negro women in four counties received information during six meetings from their agents. In two counties, the specialist worked directly with county home furnishings committees to help them clarify their needs to formulate a program.

Results show that 578 pieces of furniture were refinished, 339 slip covers made, 134 hooked and braided rugs made, 64 pieces of furniture upholstered, 6,442 women are wiser consumers and are using better practices in selecting furnishings for their homes, 462 pairs of curtains made and 308 chairs resealed.

These are only a few figures which have been reported. They do not tell the whole story. The important thing is that the attitude of thousands of Maryland homemakers have been changed as a result of the Extension program. They have become stronger citizens. They not only have learned the skills and techniques in refinishing furniture, making slip covers, drapery, rugs, etc., but they are able to make better and more economical selections. They are better consumers for they have learned what to expect from an article of furnishing. They are able to buy more intelligently.

Through their leaders' training meetings they have become authorities on home furnishings in their communities, professional in their demonstrations, have gained poise before a group of people, progressive in their attitudes and can take their place as leaders in other civic organizations. These are the things which speak loudest in progress, and in development of the individual.

Home Management

The major objective of this program is to teach homemakers to guide, direct, plan and coordinate human and material resources of the family to obtain a happy, satisfying family life.

The program was divided into home management, family economics, equipment, health and safety. Of these home management received greatest emphasis.

Busy homemakers are interested in effective management of time. Most Extension groups who tackled time management, chose "job analysis" to learn where time might be more effectively used. A selected task was chosen for study. The homemaker conducted the task by her usual method, then analyzed it step-by-step and motion-by-motion. After study, as many steps and motion as possible were eliminated.

Fourteen training meetings were held on kitchen-planning, time management or work simplification principles.

High costs of services have made "do-it-yourself" programs popular. Home and Electrical Repair demonstrations showed how to repair leaky faucets, leaking flush tanks, study tools needed in the home, sharpen knives and scissors, repair electric cords and small equipment. Homemakers took a very active part in the eight such demonstrations.

New products for the home are constantly appearing. One training meeting was held on new floor covers; two on new cleaning products. One county studied storage of clothing.

Family economics is growing in popularity. Financial planning is of prime importance. One training meeting was held on this subject and more are planned for 1955.

Four counties carried projects of family health, studying and working with local health authorities. Three counties studied highway safety, household first aid, safety in the home, fire prevention, home nursing and civil defense.

Equipment projects, with great emphasis on care of electrical equipment were selected by nine county groups. Selection of equipment, primarily kitchen, was second in interest. Four counties held sewing machine clinics.

Seven counties included home management projects in their 4-H club work. Girls carried projects in bedmaking; cleaning the living room, range refrigerator, silver and windows; dishwashing, health, ironing, home repair, storage, time management and work simplification.

Attempts were made in 12 counties to remind and to motivate homemakers to provide adequate family meals. Meal planning along with discussion of the Basic Seven were a part of almost all the food and nutrition meetings in the state. A method demonstration of food preparation was included at most meetings, accompanied by discussion.

Food preservation received emphasis by the training of 52 Allegany county food and nutrition chairmen on the subject "New Methods for Canning Vegetables." This was done by the specialist. Freezing prepared foods was the subject of a method demonstration in three counties this year.

The 4-H program was based around the food and nutrition projects now available in meal planning, food preparation and food preservation.

Negro Extension Work

Maryland's eight Negro agricultural agents serve 10 counties, mainly in Southern Maryland and on the Eastern Shore. During 1954, they worked with more than 1,800 farm families and with nearly 2,000 non-farm families, living both in the country and in town.

Appointed to study the problems and serve the needs and interest of Negro families, are eight Negro home demonstration agents. Through these agents, a practical and effective home economics Extension program for adults and youth has been conducted in seven counties and in the City of Baltimore.

Major efforts have been directed toward expanding the program to reach a larger segment of the Negro population. This has been partially accomplished by more effective program planning involving wider participation by local people, an increase in the number of organized Extension-sponsored groups and more assistance to families who are not members in Homemakers or 4-H Clubs.

Reports of Home Demonstration Agents show that a broad educational program in home economics and related areas was conducted in the counties in 1954. The program offered to adults and youth has included home furnishings, home management, foods, nutrition, family life, safety, recreation, health and community development. A total of 408 different volunteer local leaders or committeemen have assisted agents in organizing, planning and carrying out the program.



An Extension agent points out that beetles caused this damage and advises on best spray and insecticide control methods.

Work in clothing received primary emphasis in Negro Home Demonstration work this year. Three-fourths of members of Homemaker clubs wore ready-made dresses, surveys showed. Surveys also showed that the cost of family clothing was high in relationship to average income.

Through assistance and training given to homemakers and 4-H club members in the clothing project, the extent

This Negro truck farmer is making a success of his enterprise with the assistance of Extension to help him solve problems.



for this purpose than ever before. There is always a need to replace, renovate and remake.

The Extension program was designed to supply information to solve as many problems as possible as expressed by homemakers and 4-H girls. Through organized program planning, rural and urban homemakers and 4-H girls requested information they felt they needed to improve their homes. An estimated 18,454 families were reached.

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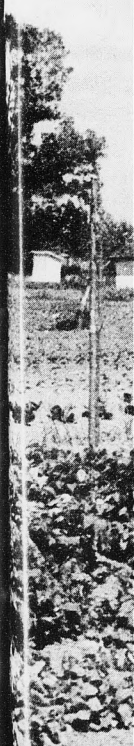
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This Negro truck farmer is making a success of his enterprise with the assistance of Extension to help him solve problems.





Here are before and after pictures of the kitchen in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mills, Somerset county. With the guidance of their Extension Agent, Mrs. Omega Jones, and Home Furnishing Specialist Florence Mason, the Mills made their entire home more livable and more attractive at a low cost. This home improvement project has been shown to more than 200 visitors.

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Using a variety of teaching methods and direct contacts to disseminate useful and practical home economics information, 3,173 Negro families in Maryland were assisted in making some recommended changes in homemaking practices this year.

Over the years the Home Demonstration program has been valuable in helping families achieve a higher standard of living, greater economic stability, desirable social and cultural adjustment and a richer, more satisfying life.

L. H. Martin, Wicomico-Somerset agent, receives a new traveling bag from fellow workers on retiring after 38-year career.



Negro Agricultural Agents also enjoyed considerable assistance from volunteer local leaders in their work. Around 400 men and women helped with the agricultural program. These folks teamed up with the Extension agents to carry on demonstrations, to plan and carry out community and county agricultural exhibits and to help out wherever they could to make the Extension work in their counties successful.

A look at the results of the educational work on production and marketing of hogs, only one phase of the agents' work, shows that the agents made nearly 3,500 contacts through farm visits, telephone calls, letters, office visits, meetings and other means. Of these farmers, nearly 1,400 were helped to adopt improved ways of producing pork on the farm. More than 500 farmers were helped with marketing. The eight agents had the help of 92 local people in the 10 counties in reaching farmers and 4-H'ers with the swine program.

Some idea of the part Extension workers can plan in the lives of the people they serve is illustrated by the record of one Eastern Shore Negro family. They first met Extension through L. H. Martin, who retired last year after 38 years as Negro agent in Wicomico and Somerset counties.

During the early 1920's, this family bought their first land after renting and sharecropping. Mr. Martin helped them to diversify their farming, both to preserve the land and to assure a steady income to support their growing family. The wife credits the Home Demonstration program for help in feeding and clothing the family.

As time went on, the eight children belonged to 4-H Clubs. When four boys were taken into service, Mr. Martin assisted the family to shift to a more mechanized type of farming. This relationship between farmer and agent has continued until the present. His latest project is draining seven acres of low land to make it fit for production.

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	Farm	Rural nonFarm	Urban
Families Assisted in Making Agricultural Practice Changes.....	19,724	5,212	3,675
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Carroll County, Westminster

L. C. Burns, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Esther Gillette, *Home Demonstration Agent*; Wm. Allenberg, *Associate*; R. L. Clem, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Elizabeth Langsdale, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Cecil County, Elkton

R. G. Mueller, *Agricultural Agent*; Margaret Mueller, *Home Demonstration Agent*; A. B. Bryant, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*

Charles County, La Plata

P. D. Brown, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Anna S. Wills, *Home Demonstration Agent*; W. E. Garvey, Jr., *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Milbourne Hull, *Negro Agricultural Agent*; Naomi Turner, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent*

Dorchester County, Cambridge

H. W. Beggs, *Agricultural Agent*; Hattie E. Brooks, *Home Demonstration Agent*; W. M. Nixon, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Charlotte Mitchell, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*; G. A. Polson, *Negro Agricultural Agent* (Dorchester and Wicomico); Catherine E. Johnson, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent* (Dorchester and Wicomico)

Frederick County, Frederick

H. R. Shoemaker, *Agricultural Agent*; Beatrice Fehr, *Home Demonstration Agent*; R. D. Cassell, *Associate*; R. E. Stansfield, Jr., *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Betsy Lovington, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Garrett County, Oakland

J. H. Carter, *Agricultural Agent*; Ethel Grove, *Home Demonstration Agent*; J. A. McHenry, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*

Harford County, Bel Air

H. M. Carroll, *Agricultural Agent*; Virginia McLuckie, *Home Demonstration Agent*; G. D. Wood, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Ruth Scott, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Howard County, Ellicott City

W. G. Myers, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. June Robertson, *Home Demonstration Agent*; J. Albright, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Amy Leber, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Kent County, Chestertown

J. D. McVean, *Agricultural Agent*; Jane Boyd, *Home Demonstration Agent*; S. B. Sutton, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*

Montgomery County, Rockville

D. T. Foster, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Catherine Rhoads, *Home Demonstration Agent*; Roscoe Whipp, *Associate*; R. Z. Spry, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Irma Bell and Elizabeth Skeats, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agents*; O. L. Privette, *Negro Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Verna Motley, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent*

Prince Georges County, Upper Marlboro

P. E. Clark, *Agricultural Agent*; Ethel Regan, *Home Demonstration Agent*; Ella Fazzalari and Mrs. Patricia W. Futch, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agents*; Claude G. McKee, *Southern Maryland Assistant County Agent-at-large*; J. R. Taylor, *Negro Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Hattie Holmes, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent*

Queen Annes County, Centreville

B. W. Kelly, *Agricultural Agent*; Ruby Brant, *Home Demonstration Agent*; R. D. Porter, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*

St. Marys County, Leonardtown

J. J. Johnson, *Agricultural Agent*; Ethel Joy, *Home Demonstration Agent*; J. J. Lancaster, Jr., *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Ryland Holmes, *Negro Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Evelyn Ashley, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent*

Somerset County, Princess Anne

C. Z. Keller, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Regenia Fuller, *Home Demonstration Agent*; L. H. Martin, *Negro Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Omega Jones, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent*

Talbot County, Easton

R. S. Brown, *Agricultural Agent*; Margaret Smith, *Home Demonstration Agent*; J. W. Goodman, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Nancy Lee Joseph, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Washington County, Hagerstown

M. K. Miller, *Agricultural Agent*; Mrs. Ardath Stouffer, *Home Demonstration Agent*; R. Brown, Jr., *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Joan Gibson, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*

Wicomico County, Salisbury

J. P. Brown, *Agricultural Agent*; Nell Grim, *Home Demonstration Agent*; R. G. Miller, *Assistant Agricultural Agent*; Bernardine M. Patterson, *Assistant Home Demonstration Agent*; G. A. Polson, *Negro Agricultural Agent* (Wicomico and Dorchester); Mrs. Catherine E. Johnson, *Negro Home Demonstration Agent* (Wicomico and Dorchester)

Worcester County, Snow Hill

R. T. Grant, *Agricultural Agent*; Jane M. Cole, *Home Demonstration Agent*

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Home Demon-
Mrs. Amy

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Home Demon-
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Catherine E.
(Dorchester)

Demonstration